Bokura Ga Ita

We were there

Yuuki Obata

Credits

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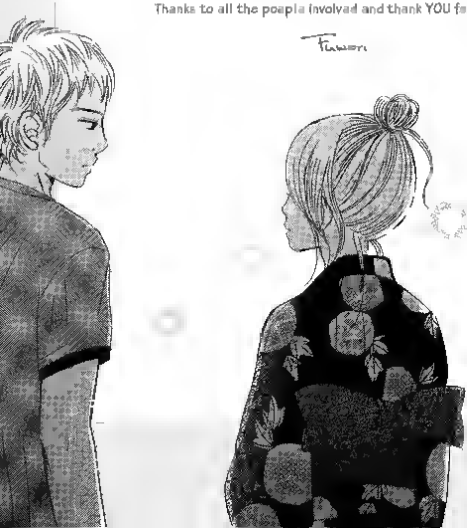
Thanks to all the people involved and thank YOU for reading!

Fuwari



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Message from the author

Most of the movies DVDs that I want are out of production, so if I want to own them should I buy the high priced premium ones through the internet or should I confidently wait until they're re-released? This has really got me thinking.

The main source of Heart Beats & Excitement For girls!

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Yuuki Obata

小畑友紀

Bokura ga Ita 9

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The story so for

★Nanami fell in love with a boy from her class Yano whom she hated at first. Unfortunately, their feelings keep overlapping and when finally their relationship deepens Yano has to leave for Tokyo with his mother. Nanami and Yano make a promise to meet a year later. Time passes. Nanami is almost a university graduate but they still haven't met, the one near her side isn't Yano.

Yuuki Obata's other works

Bokura ga Ita ①—⑪
The violet is blue ①—②
Round Triangular Square Total 2 vol
Love Hate Love
Kimi no kechi

Cover design / Keiko Iwashita

僕等がいた
Bokura ga Ita
⑨
Yuuki Obata
小畑友紀
＊Betsucomi Flower Comics＊

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CONTENTS & CHARACTERS

STORY

Yano leaves for Tokyo with his mother and the couple's long-term relationship starts. However, time flies and Nanami never meets Yano since the day they parted. Five years pass and Nanami is a university graduate writing her graduation thesis and looking for a job. In this busy everyday-life how does Nanami get by?

Masafumi Takeuchi:

Yano's close childhood-friend, the exact opposite of him, gentle and restraining.

Nanami Takahashi:

21 years old, a university student currently living in Tokyo. Can be spontaneous (?) at times.

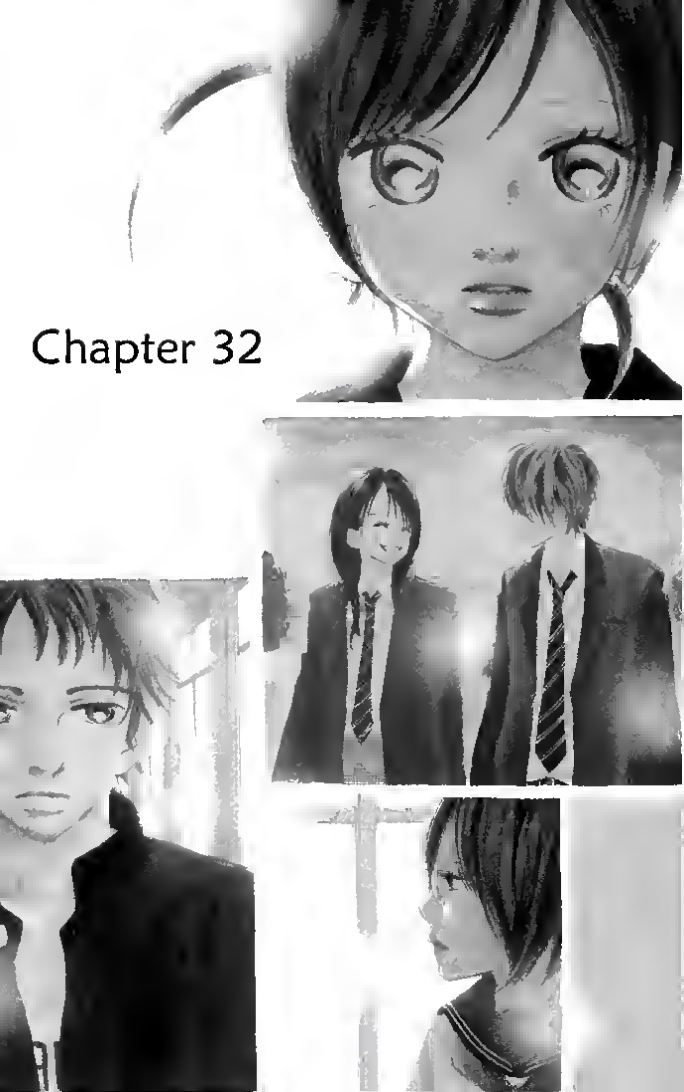
Motoharu Yano:

The person Nanami loves, her ex-boyfriend, whose whereabouts are unknown.

Bokura ga Ita

僕等がいた⑨

Betsucomi Flower Comics


Chapter 32

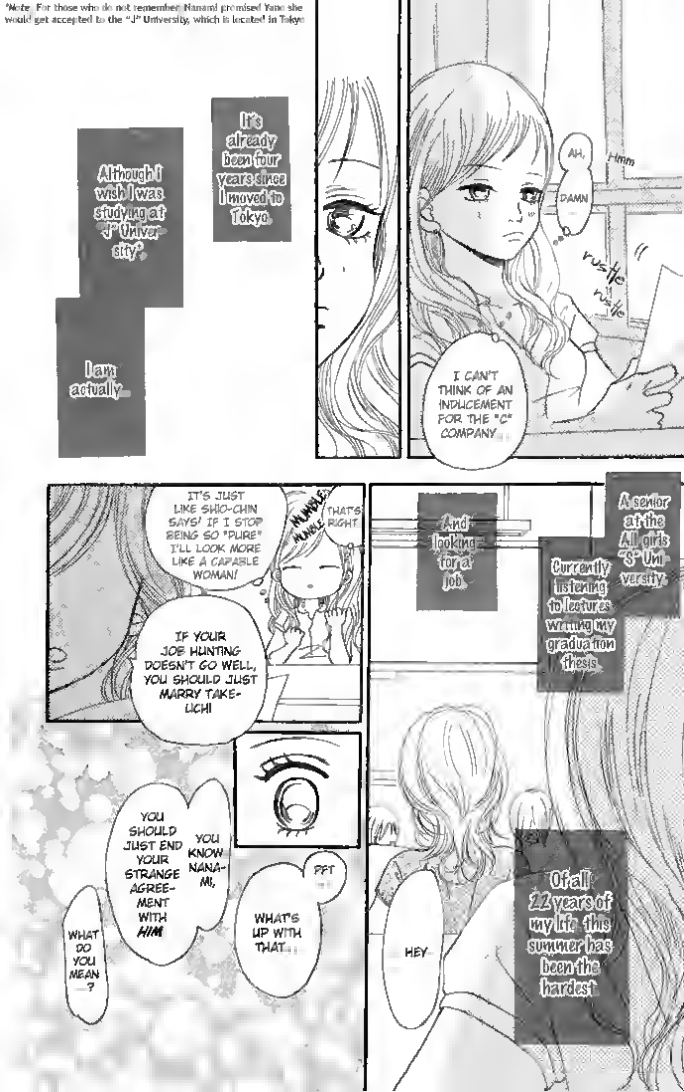
Under this vast sky,

Somewhere, definitely

WHEN WERE WE SUPPOSED TO TURN IN THE ESSAYS?
DOES ANYONE HAVE LAST WEEK'S NOTES?
NANAMI, DID YOU FINISH YOUR ESSAY?
WHERE DID YOU GO THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING?
I TOOK AN ENGLISH EXAM AT THE "A" COMPANY
HOW DID IT GO?
I HAD TO READ SOME ECONOMICS STUDENT'S ESSAY. Didn't understand a thing.
Wobble
Hoe
I DIDN'T
Why hasn't the rainy season started yet !?
AND AFTER THAT?
THEN, AT ONE I HAD THE FINAL INTERVIEW AT THE "B" COMPANY.
AT TWO I HAD A GROUP INTERVIEW AT THE "C" COMPANY.
Wow — TOUGH —!

HEY, Shio-chin
WHAT?
HOW COME EVEN WHEN I GO THROUGH A FINAL INTERVIEW, I DON'T GET HIRED?
Explain it, sis
That's because...
YOUR BOOBS ARE TOO SMALL.
ANSWER SERIOUSLY!
LET'S SEE...
Squeeze
YOU'RE MODERATELY CUTE
YOUR PERSONALITY IS ALSO QUITE GOOD
YOU'RE FAIRLY EFFICIENT TOO
YOU'RE QUITE SMART
YOU'RE NOT WEARING TOO MUCH MAKE-UP
AND YOU AREN'T SARCASTIC
THAT'S QUITE ANNOYING, ISN'T IT?
I SEE. SO THAT'S WHY YOU ASKED ME TO COME TO THIS UNIVERSITY WITH YOU!
IF YOU CAN'T FIND A JOB WHY DON'T YOU TRY STUDYING ABROAD?
OR GETTING MARRIED!
Is engaged
Missy
Just came back home
OKAY, I GET IT...
Real-life these people
I'D RATHER SUCCEED IN MY STUDIES THAN GO TO GROUP DATES ANYWAY
BY THE WAY, KAHO SAID THAT SHE WON'T INVITE YOU TO GROUP DATES ANYMORE
FINALLY YOUR REAL MOTIVES CAME OUT
SO YOU WON'T USE YOUR CELL PHONE OR ELLY NAME-ER, IND STUFF FROM NOW ON, TOO?

*Note: It's common [illegible] people in Japan to save money and [illegible] for items that are [illegible] famous brand, [especially for teenagers].


*Note: For those who do not remember, Nanami promised Yuta she would get accepted to the "J" University, which is located in Tokyo
Although I wish I was studying at "J" University,
I am actually...
It's already been four years since I moved to Tokyo.
I CAN'T THINK OF AN INDUCEMENT FOR THE "C" COMPANY...
AH,
Hmm
DAMN
rustle
rustle
A senior at the All girls "S" University.
Currently listening to lectures
Writing my graduation thesis
And looking for a job.
Of all 22 years of my life this summer has been the hardest
HEY
IT'S JUST LIKE SHIO-CHIN SAYS! IF I STOP BEING SO "PURE" I'LL LOOK MORE LIKE A CAPABLE WOMAN!
MUMBLE MUMBLE
THAT'S RIGHT
IF YOUR JOB HUNTING DOESN'T GO WELL, YOU SHOULD JUST MARRY TAKE-UCHI
YOU KNOW NANA-MI,
PFT
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT...
YOU SHOULD JUST END YOUR STRANGE AGREE-MENT WITH HIM
WHAT DO YOU MEAN—?

FIRST OF ALL,
I AND TAKEUCHI ARE NOT LIKE THAT!
I haven't gotten a message from him for half a year now.
I'VE HEARD ALL THAT BEFORE
YOU SAY THAT YOU'RE JUST FRIENDS
HOW LONG ARE YOU PLANNING TO STICK WITH A GUY LIKE THAT?
I'M NOT STICKING TO HIM.
YOU SO ARE
I'M DEFINITELY NOT
THEN WHY HAVEN'T YOU DATED ANY OTHER GUY SINCE HIGH SCHOOL?
THERE WAS NO ONE I LIKED.
THEN WHY WASN'T THERE?
I HAVE NOTHING TO TALK ABOUT WITH THE GUYS HERE.
THEN... WHY DON'T YOU DATE TAKEUCHI?
BECAUSE HE HASN'T ASKED ME.
Shojo
http://shojo.ulaspace.com

Clatter
Clatter
It's been five years
Already five years from that time.
BESIDES, I CAN'T BE STICKING TO A GUY WHO I HAVEN'T SEEN FOR FIVE YEARS
That's right
THAT GUY FROM HIGH SCHOOL...
YEAH
NANAMI THOUGHT SHE WOULD SEE HIM AGAIN AFTER SHE MOVED HERE
HE'S IN TOKYO TOO, RIGHT?
IT SEEMS SO...
YANO?
YANO,
IN THE END, THEY LOST CONTACT, DIDN'T THEY?
WHAT HAPPENED WITH HIM?
THOUGH YEARS PASSED,
THOUGH YEARS PASSED, THEY STILL NEVER MET

I SEE
DOESN'T SHE KNOW WHERE HE LIVES?
IT SEEMS LIKE SHE DOESN'T
WELL... IN TRUTH, HE STOPPED CALLING HALF A YEAR BEFORE SHE EVEN MOVED TO TOKYO.
SHE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING, NOT EVEN IF HE'S ALIVE.
Yano.
Where are you now?
Where in Japan are you?
Are you living?
Where under this vast sky
Chirp
Sniff

What kind of places did you go to?
What did you eat?
What did you through today?
Who did you talk to?
I found a place yn might like hou going there Let's meet
FROM TAKEUCHI
Yano,
Today, I am really dispirited.
Because you didn't say good-bye
Because you didn't keep our promise.
Runa
Am I still...
Runa
Hung up on you?
H...
HUH?

Shoujo
http://manga.taira.it

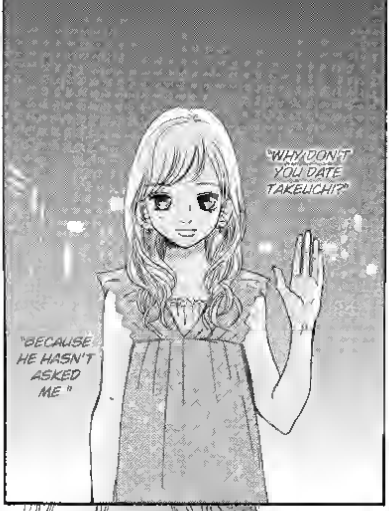
It's been a while..
When was the last time we met?
Around winter I think
Three months already passed
Tori-Ichi
Tori-Ichi Bar
I SEE
THREE MONTHS, HUH?
TIME SURE FLIES
YOU MUST'VE BEEN BUSY DURING THIS TIME.
BY THE WAY, WHAT HAPPENED TODAY TAKAHASHI?
EH?
YOU LOOK DIFFERENT THAN USUAL.
More casual
YEAH, SINCE YOU SAID YOU FOUND A PLACE I MIGHT LIKE!
I HAVEN'T FELT THIS EXCITED IN A LONG TIME
I wonder if it's an Italian restaurant or maybe French?
Heh heh!
EH?
ALTHOUGH I SAID THAT,
Cough Cough
THEY MOSTLY SELL SAKE* IN THAT PLACE!
UMM...
SORRY!!
SORRY FOR GETTING YOUR HOPES UP!
*Note: Japanese rice wine

HA HA!
Am I not good enough?
THAT'S HOW I FEEL
I FEEL LIKE I AM REJECTED BY ALL OF HUMANITY
YEAH I TOTALLY UNDER-STAND!
THANKS TO STUFF LIKE THAT, YOU BE-COME STRONG-ER!
SOME-HOW,
THIS ...
WHEN I GET A REJECTION NOTICE,
INSTEAD OF FEELING DEPRESSED ...
CHEER UP,
YOU CAN EAT MY MONKFISH LIVER.
YEAH,
THE "M" COMPANY.
Foreign Consulting Company
YOU GOT AN OFFER?
Where?
AH,
AC-TUALLY LAST WEEK I...
Thanks
I SEE ...
HOW MANY COMPA-NIES HAVE YOU GONE TO?
BY THE WAY, TAKEUCHI,
WHAT ?
CONGRATU-LATIONS!
You learned that kind of job!
BUT THE COMPANIES WHERE YOU'VE INTERVIEWED ARE REALLY HARD TO GET INTO
UH-HUH
YOU DID YOUR BEST!
IT'S NOT WORTH GETTING DEPRES-SED OVER THIS
ALSO, YOU KNOW IN THE END,
WORKING IN COMPANIES IS NOT THAT GOOD EITHER.

OKAY!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO RESTRAIN YOURSELF BECAUSE OF ME!
REALLY.
Cheers!
Even Takeuchi doesn't talk about Yano anymore.
BY THE WAY,
HM?
YOU'LL BE LEAVING THE DORMITORY NEXT YEAR, RIGHT? WILL YOU BE LIVING ALONE?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT,
ALTHOUGH LIVING IN THE DORMS FOR FOUR YEARS WAS FUN,
IT WILL BE MY FIRST TIME LIVING ALONE,
AND I WON'T BE GETTING AN ALLOWANCE WHEN I GET A JOB EITHER

TAKEUCHI, YOU'RE SMOKING ?
AH YEAH.
I THOUGHT YOU QUIT.
AAH
I THINK I'LL GIVE IT MY BEST,
I'M A LITTLE BIT WORRIED, BUT...
HMM
They say that when a person takes up smoking again, something is bothering him...
I wonder if something happened...
YEAH, I KIND OF DID,
BUT RECENTLY I STARTED AGAIN.
I SEE

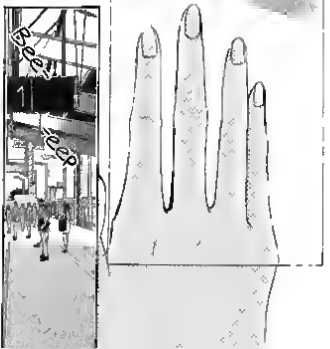
WE SHOULD GO SOMEWHERE ELSE!
IN THE END IT'S A CELEBRATION OF YOU GETTING HIRED!
IT'S ALRIGHT.
ENOUGH FOR TONIGHT.
YOU HAVE TO GO TO THAT THIRD COMPANY TOMORROW, RIGHT?
YOU SHOULD HEAD BACK NOW.
SO...
RATTLE
RATTLE
SHALL WE GO SOMEWHERE ELSE?
BUT IF YOU WANT, I WILL KEEP YOU COMPANY UNTIL THE MORNING.

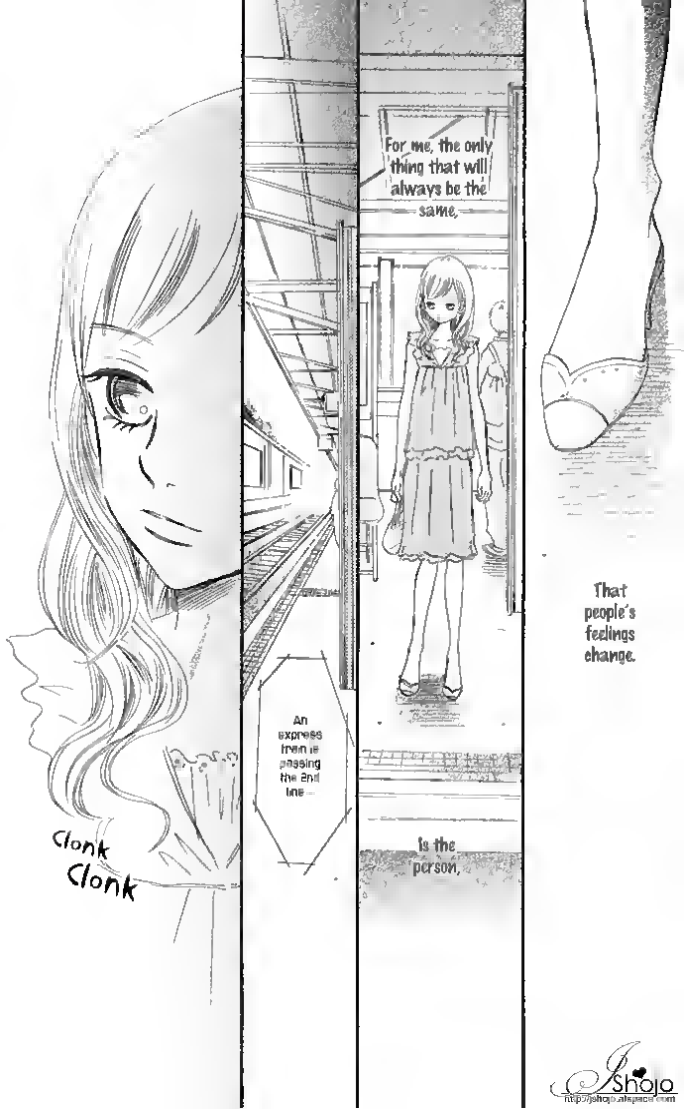

"WHY DON'T YOU DATE TAKEUCHI?"
"BECAUSE HE HASN'T ASKED ME."

What a nice person.

People's feelings change.
Years pass...
Even Takeuchi does

Yes, during these five years I learned...

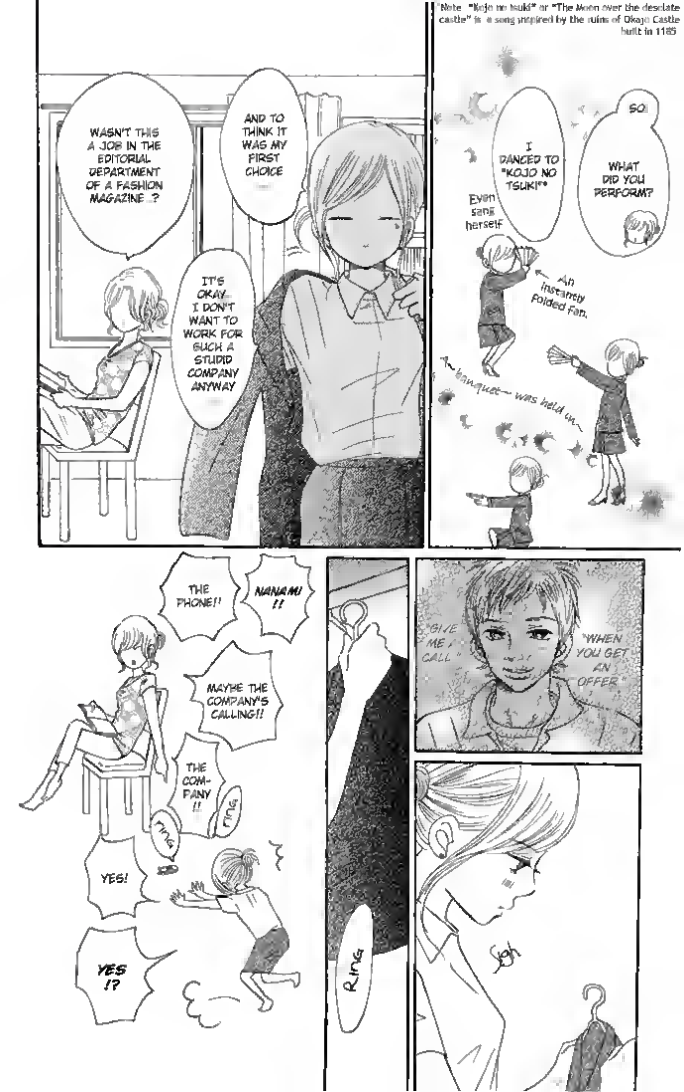

Beep!
Beep

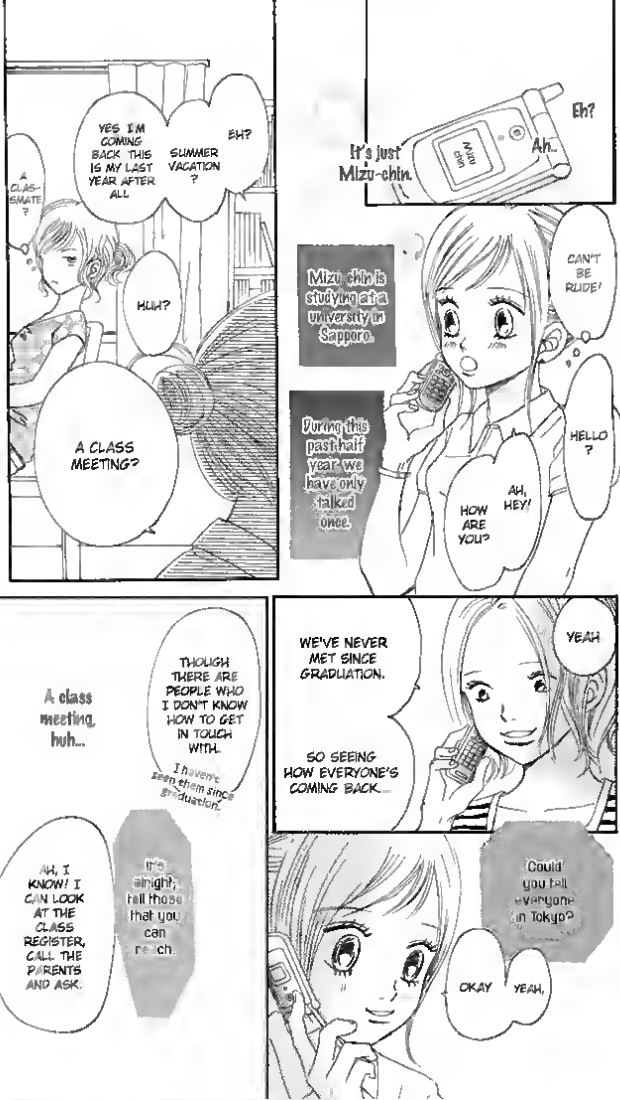

For me, the only thing that will always be the same,
That people's feelings change.
An express train is passing the 2nd line...
Is the person,
Clonk Clonk

WHOO——OOSH
Clunk
clunk

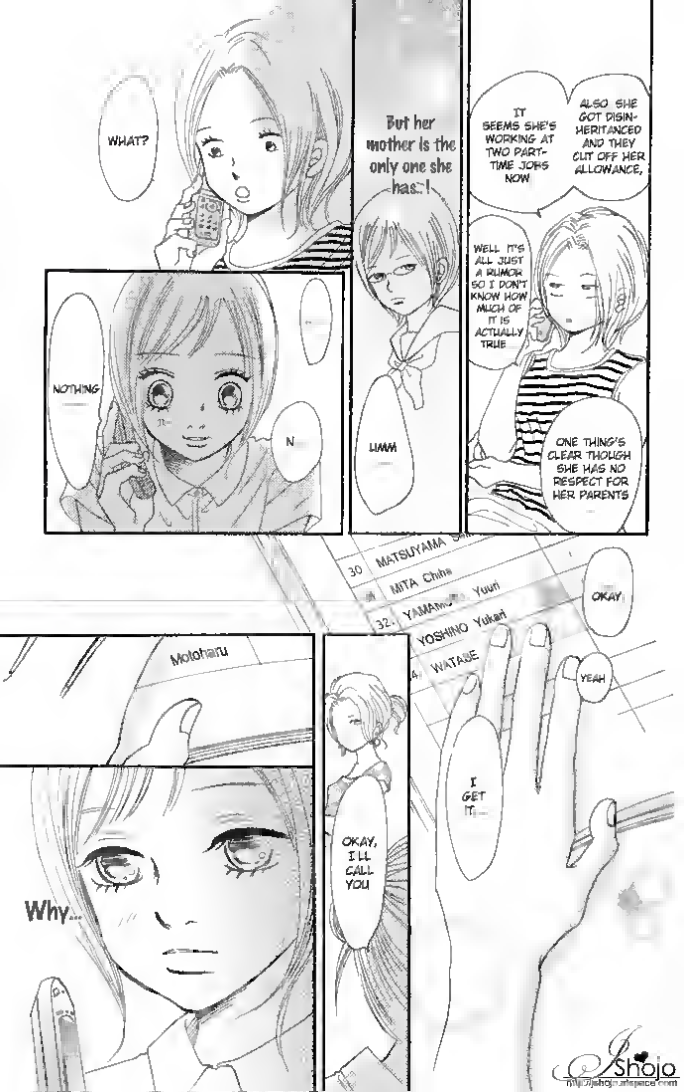
Who disappeared
On the other side of the track.

Rustle rustle
Curriculum Vitae
Name
Education
THAT WOULD BE ALL THE QUESTIONS WE HAVE
ERM
THEN
LASTLY
COULD YOU SHOW US AT LEAST ONE OF YOUR SKILLS?
PARDON ?
AAAAH! DAMN!! SUCH HUMILIATION!
Dormitory
IF I DIDN'T PASS, JUST SAY SO!
CHANGE FIRST.
TO PLAY WITH STUDENTS' DESPERATION LIKE THAT!
THOSE PEOPLE, THEY ARE REALLY FRIVOLOUS!!
Unaah...
Sob
Sob


WASN'T THIS A JOB IN THE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT OF A FASHION MAGAZINE...?
AND TO THINK IT WAS MY FIRST CHOICE
IT'S OKAY. I DON'T WANT TO WORK FOR SUCH A STUPID COMPANY ANYWAY
*Note: "Kojo no tsuki" or "The Moon over the desolate castle" is a song inspired by the ruins of Oka-jo Castle built in 1185
SO,
WHAT DID YOU PERFORM?
I DANCED TO "KOJO NO TSUKI"
Even I sang herself
An insanely folded fan.
"A banquet— was held un—
THE PHONE!!
NANAMI !!
MAYBE THE COMPANY'S CALLING!!
THE COM-PANY !!
RING
RING
YES!
YES !?
"GIVE ME A CALL"
"WHEN YOU GET AN OFFER"
Ring
Ring
Ring


Eh?
It's just Mizu-chin.
Ah..
Mizu-chin is studying at a university in Sapporo.
During this past half year we have only talked once.
CAN'T BE RUDE!
HELLO?
AH, HEY!
HOW ARE YOU?
WE'VE NEVER MET SINCE GRADUATION.
SO SEEING HOW EVERYONE'S COMING BACK...
YEAH
Could you tell everyone in Tokyo?
OKAY
YEAH.
A class meeting, huh...
I haven't seen them since graduation.
THOUGH THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO I DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH.
It's alright, tell those that you can reach.
AH, I KNOW! I CAN LOOK AT THE CLASS REGISTER, CALL THE PARENTS AND ASK.
YES I'M COMING BACK THIS IS MY LAST YEAR AFTER ALL
SUMMER VACATION?
EH?
A CLASS-MATE?
HUH?
A CLASS MEETING?

HUH?
She's not in Tokyo.
BUT
I'M PRETTY SURE SHE GOT INTO "R" UNIVERSITY
Yeah, but...
She quit after only half a year there and immediately transferred
REALLY?
YEAH.
You have the class register?
PEOPLE WHO ARE IN TOKYO
SHIMO-YAMA, RIGHT? AND YAMA-SHITA.
Flip flip
MATSUYAMA Saimi
MITA Chiha
YAMAMOTO Yuuri
There's also...
KYD TOO
YAMA-MOTO
Ah,
You're wrong about Yama more
...Sapporo?
Shock-ing, isn't it?
I HAD NO IDEA.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT SHE WAS HERE
I just recently found out myself.
I don't know the reason though.


WHAT?
But her mother is the only one she has...!
IT SEEMS SHE'S WORKING AT TWO PART-TIME JOBS NOW
ALSO SHE GOT DISINHERITANCED AND THEY CUT OFF HER ALLOWANCE,
WELL IT'S ALL JUST A RUMOR SO I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH OF IT IS ACTUALLY TRUE
ONE THING'S CLEAR THOUGH SHE HAS NO RESPECT FOR HER PARENTS
NOTHING
N
LUMM
30 MATSUYAMA
MITA Chiho
32 YAMAM Yuuri
YOSHINO Yukari
WATASE
OKAY
YEAH
I GET IT...
Motoharu
Why...
OKAY, I'LL CALL YOU

Did I think that Yamamoto would have Yano's contact information?
HUH ...?
WHERE RE YOU GOING?
I GOT A MESSAGE FROM TAKEUCHI
IT'S A DATE!
HE SAID THERE'S A FESTIVAL IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD
SO, WILL YOU GO TO THE CLASS MEETING?
tie
YEAH,
I'M GOING HOME AT THAT TIME ANYWAY
Waah!
Now that I think about it, she's right...
AM I A RONIN* AT FINDING A JOB...?
DEFINITELY THE DARK RED ONE
WHICH SASH?
REALLY?
NO SUCH THING
He's just looking out for me.
YEAH, AFTER ALL YOU'VE BEEN INTERVIEWING AT LOT OF COMPANIES
LET'S JUST SAY IT'S TO RELAX AFTER LOOKING FOR A JOB FOR SO LONG...

*Note: The term ronin is used in modern Japan for those who have failed the yearly college entrance examinations for high school graduates, and then stay home to study for the next year's exams.

HMM...
I called what should have been his grandmother's house in Sapporo but no one picked up.
I visited the "K" University and all the other ones he applied to, asked his friends even checked the registers..
I couldn't find him anywhere...
BUT DON'T GET ME WRONG,
IT'S NOT BECAUSE I THINK YANO'S GOING TO BE THERE
I already lost any hope of finding him four years ago.
Nowadays,
No one even talks about Yano in front of me.
NANAMI YOUR PHONE IS RINGING
..Who is it?
An unknown number?
AH, Thanks
I'm going to take this..
YES?
HELLO ?

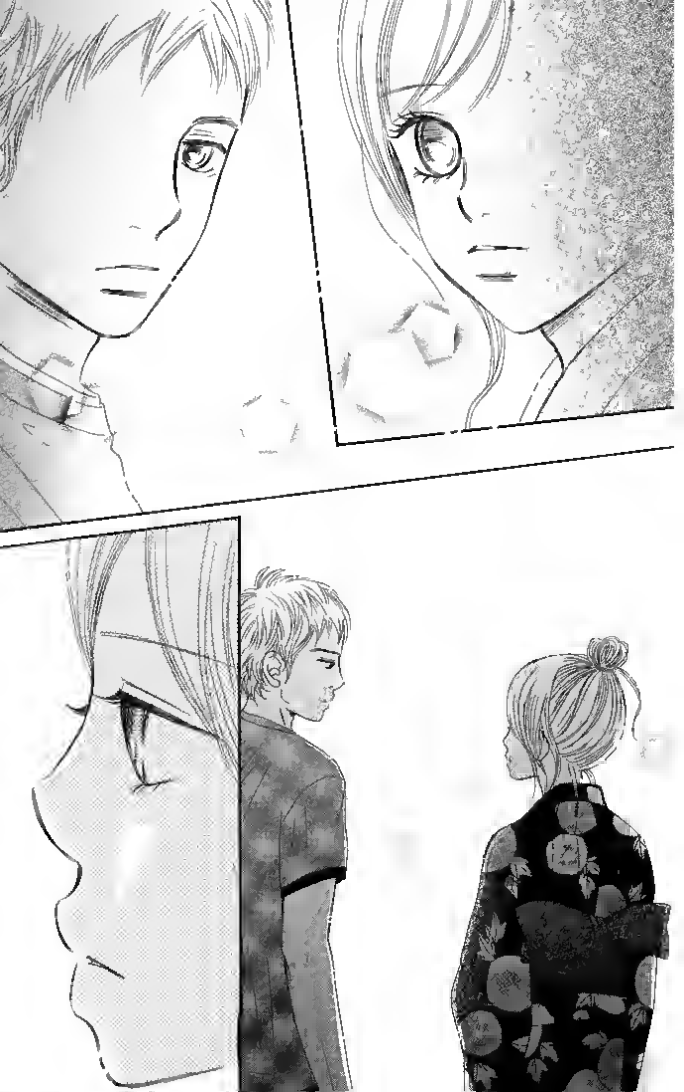
I KNEW
..
SHE FAILED
...
HMM
...
WHAT'S WRONG?
...
EH!?
YES
AH,
YES!
HUH?
DURING THAT ONE YEAR,
WHEN SHE ASKED THE FRIENDS WHO WENT TO SCHOOL WITH HIM IN THE END SHE COULDN'T FIND OUT TO WHICH UNIVERSITY HE WENT TO...
ACTUALLY, I KNEW THIS GIRL WHO WENT TO THE SAME SCHOOL AS HIM AND KNEW ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES
THAT'S BECAUSE HE WAS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND, RIGHT?
YEAH, NOWHERE
BUT...

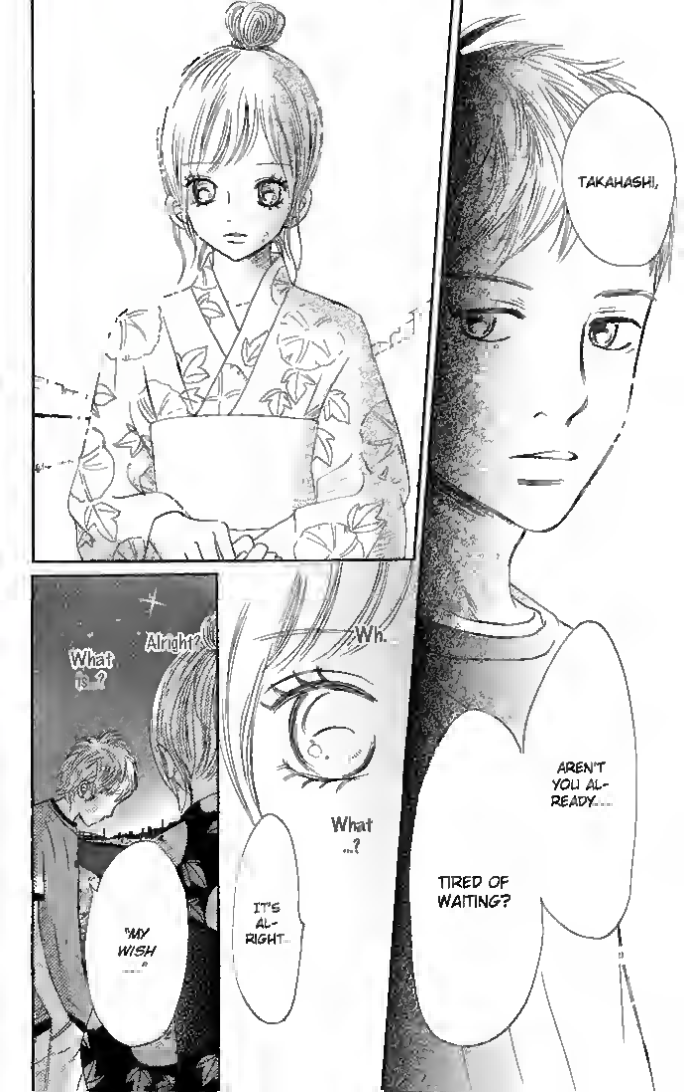
I DIDN'T TELL NANAMI THOUGH
WHY?
I DIDN'T TELL HER
BECAUSE I TRUTHFULLY THOUGHT
...THAT THERE WAS NO NEED FOR HER TO KNOW...
YOU KNOW,
I REALLY WANTED HER TO BE HAPPY...
I GOT IT!
I GOT AN OFFER!!
SHIO-CHIN!
I THINK THAT MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE TOLD HER
...BUT RIGHT NOW...

IT'S GREAT!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
CONGRATS !!
THE "S" COMPANY!
FROM WHERE !?
IT'S THE STUPID COMPANY FROM EARLIER, RIGHT?
EVEN THOUGH YOU DANCED LIKE AN IDIOT!
HUH? What are you saying about?
TAKEUCHI!!
AAH ...!
SHE'S CRYING
YOU KNOW
I've got to call home!
And Takeuchi too!

SORRY! DID YOU WAIT LONG?
DID YOU COME EARLIER THAN WE AGREED ON?
CONGRATULATIONS!!
HEH HEH
YOU SURE ARE AMAZING
I WAS PROBABLY JUST LUCKY!!
THIS TIME IT'S MY TREAT!
I DIDN'T THINK YOU WOULD COME SO EARLY
WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
CY something like that
JUST ENJOYING THE EVENING
YEAH, IT'S A NICE EVENING
YOU HAVE SOME TIME RIGHT?
AH.
LOOK FIREWORKS
YEAH
WE CAN TAKE A WALK
The flowers are being washed away...
I wonder if the kids threw them in...

*Note: Yukata is a casual form of kimono, a Japanese summer garment.
YOUR YUKATA*
IT REMINDS ME OF THE SUMMER OF OUR FIRST YEAR IN HIGH-SCHOOL
THAT TIME YOU WORE A YELLOW ONE THOUGH
YOU SURE REMEMBER IT WELL!
THAT PHOTO
YOU SENT IT TO YANO, DIDN'T YOU?
I EVEN TOOK A PICTURE !!
HA HA!
I WAS LIKE CUPID!!
ALTHOUGH
IT DIDN'T LAST...




TAKAHASHI,
AREN'T YOU AL-READY....
TIRED OF WAITING?
Wh..
What ...?
IT'S AL-RIGHT.
Alright?
What is...?
"MY WISH ..."

"UPON A STAR..."
"LET ME REMEMBER"
"THE PERSON WHOM I WILL NEVER SEE AGAIN."
MOTO
SAID THESE WORDS WHEN HE WAS IN THE SECOND YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL.
TODAY IS NANA'S DEATH ANNIVERSARY.

So it was Takeuchi
who sent the flowers down the creek.
MOTO ..
WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH THIS?
YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE HE IS, WHAT HE'S DOING.
HE WON'T APPEAR IN FRONT OF YOU AGAIN, TAKAHASHI.
NOT BEING ABLE TO MEET THE PERSON,
IT'S NO DIFFERENT FROM HIM BEING DEAD.
I KNOW THAT...
NO, YOU DON'T!

TAKAHASHI, YOU'RE STILL THINKING ABOUT HIM, EVERYDAY, AREN'T YOU?
IT'S BECAUSE HE DIDN'T CLEARLY BREAK UP WITH YOU, ISN'T IT?
THAT'S
YANO ISN'T ..
THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO LEAVES WITHOUT SAYING GOOD-BYE
IF HE DIDN'T SAY GOOD-BYE ...

"HE WILL COME BACK, SO I MUST WAIT..."
Ah...
THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, RIGHT?
YOU KNOW, THE WAY YOU ARE RIGHT NOW..

YOU REALLY REMIND ME OF HOW A CERTAIN SOMEONE USED TO BE IN THE PAST.
Wrong!
You're wrong!
DON'T TELL ME IT'S UNFAIR!
FIGHTING IS NOT THE WAY TO GO IN THIS!

IT'S ENOUGH.
STOP IT ALREADY

TAKA-
HASHI,
MOVE
IN WITH
ME.

IT'S OKAY IF YOU DON'T FORGET HIM.
TAKE ALL YOUR STUFF,
LET'S SHARE THEM TOGETHER.
THESE MEMORIES,
AND MOVE INTO MY PLACE.

DURING THE TIME WHEN HE ISN'T HERE, I'M GOING TO SUPPORT YOU.
Yano,

Who did you meet today?
What did you talk about?
What did you eat?
What kind of places did you go to?
Yano,
Yano,
Where are you now?

Who is the person
you love right now?

Credits

SCANS

TRANSLATOR

EDITOR

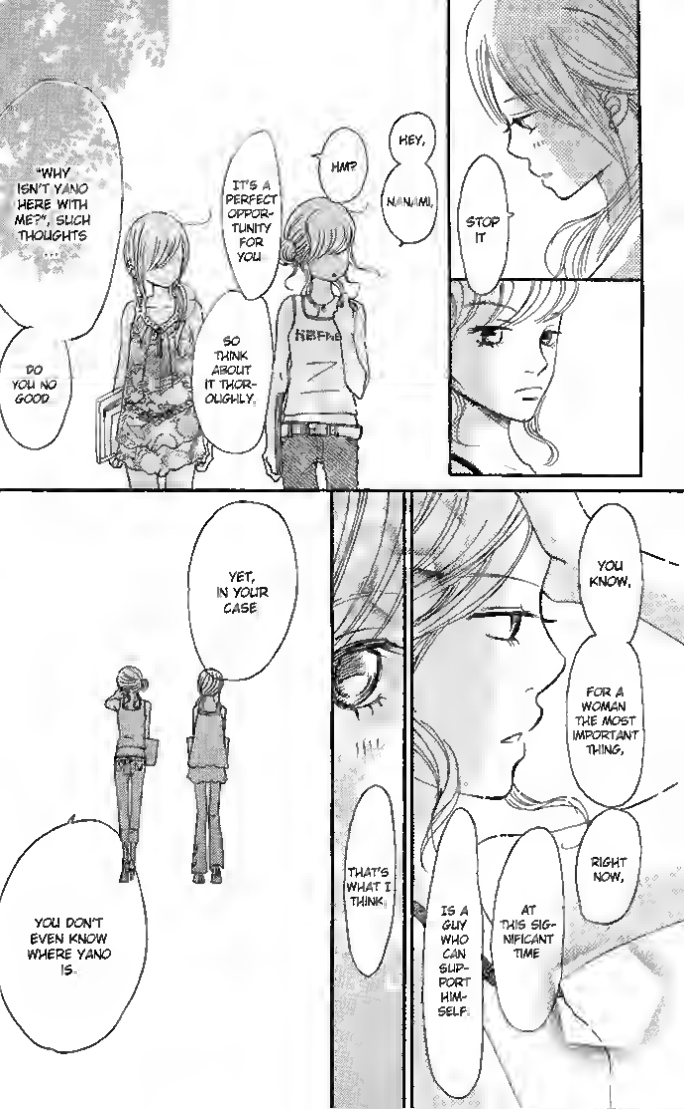
QUALITY CHECK

Chapter 33

"TAKAHASHI,"
"MOVE IN WITH ME."

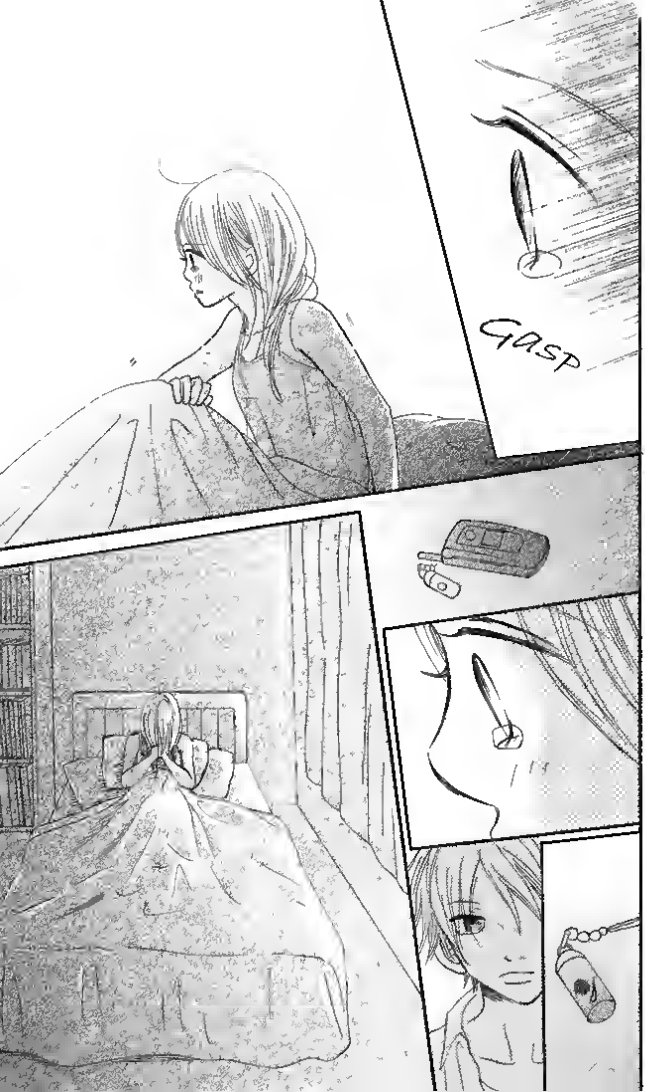
TALL, HANDSOME NICE SMART, HONEST, (PROBABLY) DILIGENT, HAS A WONDERFUL PERSONALITY...
His parents own a Sake store!
A "W" UNIVERSITY GRADUATE, HAS A GOOD JOB WITH HIGH INCOME AND A HIGH SOCIAL STATUS,
NANAMI!!
TAKEUCHI IS A DREAM OF EVERY WOMAN!
YOU'LL NEVER GET A SECOND CHANCE LIKE THIS!
HEFNER
YOU'RE A FAILURE AS A WOMAN!
I NEVER REALIZED TAKEUCHI WAS SO PERFECT
WOW
IF YOU DON'T NEED SUCH A GOOD MAN, GIVE HIM TO ME!
THAT'S RIGHT. I'LL TAKE HIM!!
SHIO ARE YOU GOING CRAZY...?

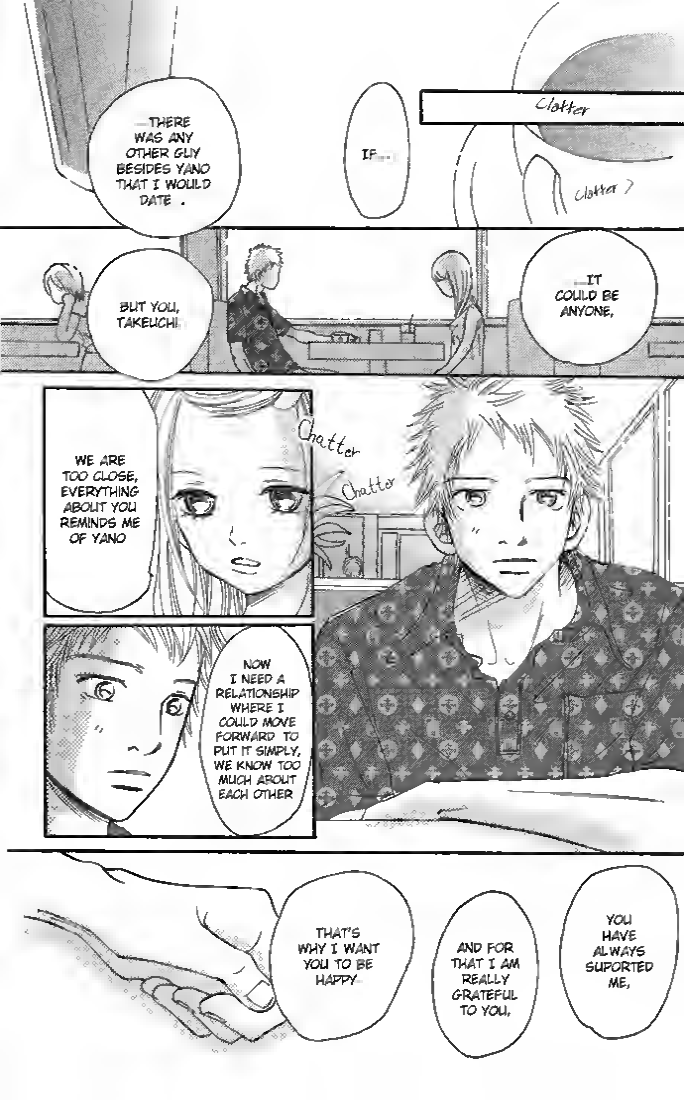
BUT
NO MATTER WHAT
ISN'T THAT A BIT TOO MUCH?
TO LIVE TOGETHER,
YEAH, KIND OF...
BUT TAKEUCHI TOO...
SAYING IT SO SUDDENLY...
HE'S RESOLUTE TO THE EXTREME
BUT FOR THAT TAKEUCHI TO TALK ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT
I DON'T THINK HE JUST BLURTED IT OUT...
FOR A LONG TIME...
HE WAS PROBABLY THINKING ABOUT SUGGESTING THIS TO YOU...
I THOUGHT HE ALREADY GAVE UP.
I thought his feelings for me would be vanished by now.
AREN'T YOU HAPPY THAT HE DIDN'T?
Hush, hush.


HEY, NANAMI.
STOP IT
HM?
IT'S A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU.
SO THINK ABOUT IT THOROUGHLY.
"WHY ISN'T YANO HERE WITH ME?", SUCH THOUGHTS ...
DO YOU NO GOOD.
YET, IN YOUR CASE
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE YANO IS.
YOU KNOW,
FOR A WOMAN THE MOST IMPORTANT THING,
RIGHT NOW,
AT THIS SIGNIFICANT TIME
IS A GUY WHO CAN SUPPORT HIMSELF.
THAT'S WHAT I THINK.

"WHERE IS YANO RIGHT NOW?"
Big, clumsy hands,
A soft, delicate and surprising touch .
It's so strange.
I wonder if all guys touch girls the same way..
The way Takeuchi touched me...
It felt just like Yano
"TAKEUCHI."
"JUST DATE..."
"MOVE IN WITH ME."

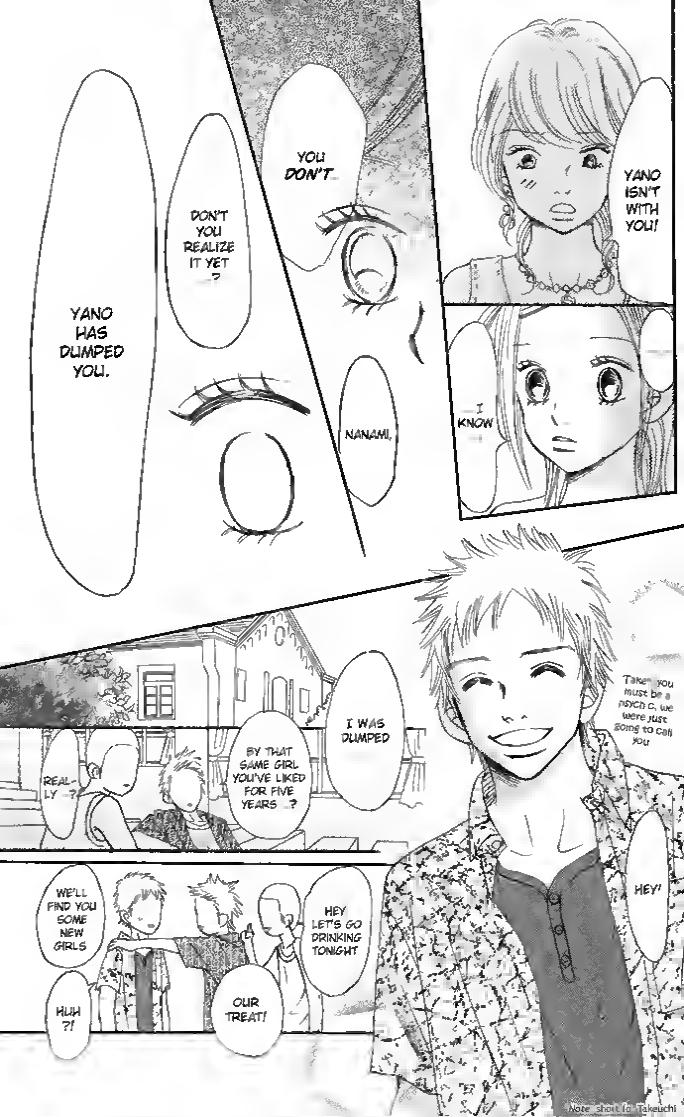
"YOU PROMISED."
"NOT TO LOVE ANYONE BESIDES ME."
-Promise?
"TAKAHASHI,"
"THE PROMISE,"
So gently.
So comfortably.
I always want to be touched like that-


GASP


—THERE WAS ANY OTHER GUY BESIDES YANO THAT I WOULD DATE .
IF...
Clatter
Clatter ?
BUT YOU, TAKEUCHI
—IT COULD BE ANYONE,
WE ARE TOO CLOSE, EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU REMINDS ME OF YANO
Chatter
Chatter
NOW I NEED A RELATIONSHIP WHERE I COULD MOVE FORWARD TO PUT IT SIMPLY, WE KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT EACH OTHER
THAT'S WHY I WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY
AND FOR THAT I AM REALLY GRATEFUL TO YOU,
YOU HAVE ALWAYS SUPORTED ME,

A RELATIONSHIP YOU COULD MOVE FORWARD?
IT'S OKAY IF YOU THINK ABOUT HIM. IT'S NATURAL.
I'LL WAIT FOR MY HAPPINESS TO COME.
...YOU'VE ALREADY WAITED FOR FIVE YEARS.
THESE FEELINGS OF YOURS
I CAN'T ANSWER THEM.
The person to receive Takeuchi's love

Is not me...
CASTING PEARLS IN FRONT OF A SWINE... IN ONE EAR AND OUT THE OTHER...
Takeuchi
You
Rejected
WHAT?
What are you talking about?
YOU'RE REALLY MAKING A MISTAKE
MIXING REALITY WITH THE THINGS YOU BELIEVE IN!
NANAMI, YOU'RE...
GEEZ
SHIO-CHIN ENOUGH ABOUT THAT...


YANO ISN'T WITH YOU!
I KNOW
NANAMI,
YOU DON'T
DON'T YOU REALIZE IT YET ...?
YANO HAS DUMPED YOU.
HEY!
Take it you must be a psych c, we were just going to call you
I WAS DUMPED
BY THAT SAME GIRL YOU'VE LIKED FOR FIVE YEARS ...?
REAL-LY ...?
HEY LET'S GO DRINKING TONIGHT
OUR TREAT!
WE'LL FIND YOU SOME NEW GIRLS
HUH ?!

Note: short for Takeuchi

These two are students at another university
I CAN'T, I'M NOT AS FREE AS YOU GUYS...
I HAVE A MEETING AND A BUSINESS DINNER TOMORROW...
Why are you here in the first place?
DIDN'T HE SAY HE WAS BROKEN-HEARTED
WE'RE NOT YOUNG PROMISING CONSULTANTS LIKE YOU AFTER ALL...
Clatter
I HAVE NO REGRETS...
I'VE ALREADY DECIDED TO CONFESS ON THAT DAY A LONG TIME AGO...
I CALLED HER OUT ONLY FOR THAT REASON
HONESTLY DURING THESE FIVE YEARS
I'VE ALREADY THOUGHT OF GIVING UP
I TRIED AVOIDING HER,
EVEN WENT TO GROUP-DATES
IT WAS LIKE TESTING MYSELF...
BUT,
JUST A QUICK GLANCE AT HER,
FOR JUST ONE MOMENT
AND ALL THOSE FEELINGS...
...KEPT RUSHING BACK

BUT THEN I WENT TO SEE HER
BE-CAUSE I JUST
WANT US TO BE TO-GETHER
FOREVER
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT
Clatter
YOU THINK SHE WAS HAPPY TO HEAR IT?
She probably thought you were proposing or something
I THINK YOU CAME ON TOO STRONGLY
BUT I WAS PROPOSING
WHEN I FINALLY UNDER-STOOD TH T MY FEELINGS FOR HER WILL NEVER CHANGE,
I MADE PROMISE WITH MYSELF,
NO MAT-TER WHAT,
I WILL MAKE TUR H SHI H PPY.
IF SHE WOULD GREE TO SPEND HER LIFE WITH ME,
I WOULD ALWAYS PROTECT HER.

FOR THESE LAST FIVE YEARS...
NO, EVEN BEFORE THAT,
SHE WAS THE CENTER OF MY AFFECTION
THIS WAS MY LAST AND ULTIMATE CONFESSION.
I HAVE NO REGRETS...
...FOR HAVING KEPT MEETING HER...
...DURING THESE FIVE YEARS...
IS THAT AT THAT TIME LONG AGO...
WHAT I REALLY DO REGRET,
...I HESITATED AND DIDN'T SNATCH HER AWAY...
...BEFORE THEIR BOND GOT SO STRONG

WHY I AM SO WEAK WHEN IT COMES TO MOTO...
I guess in the end friendship is more important to me
IF IT WAS MOTO, HE WOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME THING
...YEAH YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT.
WHAT? NOW?
ENO-SHIMA*?
WE'RE GOING TO WATCH THE SUNSET
HURRY UP, YOU GET READY TOO!
HUH ?
IT'S OKAY
JUST GO BY YOUR-SELVES
I DON'T WANT TO BE IN THE WAY
IT'S ALRIGHT JUST GET READY!
BY CAT
*Enoshima is a small island adjacent to the oldest beach in Tokyo and Kamakura, a popular resort area

I DRANK TOO MUCH LAST NIGHT...
DAMN
And talked quite a lot too
GAG
SERIOUS
GET YOURSELF TOGETHER!
REALLY!
It's a start of a new journey!
Shouldn't there be a flower pattern here?
I'LL AIM FOR THE TITLE OF THE YOUNG PROMISING CONSULTANT!
I'LL BE A WOMANIZER FROM NOW ON TOO!
Huh?
Haven't I already said the exact same words before?
Puna
I DON'T IMPROVE AT ALL...
REALLY...
YES?
Hello? Takeuchi? We're going to Enoshima now.
YOU TAKE THE TRAIN, TOO! HURRY UP!
HUUH!?

Please, Takeuchi,
She really needs you now,
Help her
NANAMI IS REALLY CONFUSED
I'VE TOLD HER MANY HORRIBLE THINGS...
SHE ALREADY REJECTED ME
IDIOT!
Telling me to come quickly...
WHAT...?
WAIT A MINUTE...
Huh? And I prepared this so well...
I CAN'T. I'M AT THE "M" COMPANY NOW I'LL BE HAVING A BUSINESS DINNER SOON
Are you the same as Nanami?
Don't you think you're the one to give her true happiness?
Is it really alright for these five years to go to waste?
IS IT ...?
Do you also want to be buried in the past?

Shojo
http://shojo.blogspot.com

Note: Sazae (Retained katakana) is a type of catfish in Japan.

"NANAMI YOU BELIEVE IN YOUR OWN FANTASIES AND CONFUSE THEM WITH REALITY."
ARE YOU CRYING?
I WANT A GOOD-BYE.
THAT FOR, YOU MEAN'S THAT HE DIDN'T BREAK UP WITH YOU, EH?
I UNDER-STAND. YOU SEE, LAST MONTH I TOO WAS-
I WASN'T DUMPED!
"BROKEN HEART".
DID YOU COME ALONE?
PLEASE LEAVE ME ALONE.
I'M NOT A PERVERT OR ANY-THING...
HEY!
DON'T RUN AWAY
AH, I GET IT.
IT'S THAT RIGHT?

Still comforting myself like that..
WAIT A MINUTE
HEY,
I'm still saying such things.
I'm so stupid...
YOU KNOW, I WAS WONDERING,
ABOUT GIRLS,
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS SAY SOMETHING LIKE "HE HAD HIS REASONS" OR "THE TIMING WAS BAD"?
ALWAYS DEFENDING THE GUYS.
'CUS, YOU KNOW, IF HE WANTS TO CALL, HE'LL CALL NO MATTER WHAT.
IF HE WANTS TO MEET THE GIRL, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, EVEN IF HE HAS NO TIME, HE'LL GO SEE HER.
"NANAMI,"
WHATEVER THE GUY SAYS, THEY BELIEVE IT
LIKE "I WAS BUSY",
"YOU BELIEVE IN YOUR OWN FANTASIES"
OR "THE TIMING WAS BAD",
"AND CONFUSE THEM WITH REALITY."
EXCUSES FOR NOT CALLING,
You're wrong!
Stop it!
NO, REALLY,
I UNDERSTAND, IT'S PRAISEWORTHY AND ALL,

Shut up...!
BUT
Wham
ISN'T IT BETTER TO LOOK AT THE SITUATION MORE REALISTICALLY. .?

TAKA-
HASHI!
I FORGOT TO TELL YOU SOMETHING!
JUST LET ME SAY THIS ONE THING!
THE PAST IS REALLY IMPOR-TANT.

VSSSH
VSSSH
NOT NOW,
Hey you! What the hell are you talking about?
THE PAST IS NOT THE ONLY THING THAT WON'T COME BACK!
BUT YOU KNOW
NOT EVER,
WE CAN'T GO BACK TO THE PAST! HOWEVER, THE TIME WE'RE LIVING IN NOW IS VERY PRECIOUS, TOO!

The time we're living in is very important.
"DON'T FORGET."
Not now,
"HE'S NOT HERE."
Not ever...
"THAT I'M HERE FOR YOU."
"BUT, I AM!"

Where is he...?
I can't find him...
Anywhere
"IT ALL EQUALS OUT, DOESN'T IT?"
"WHERE IS YANO?"
"YOU BELIEVE IN YOUR OWN FANTASIES AND CONFUSE THEM WITH REALITY."

Why?
TAKAHASHI!!
WHY?

IT'S NOTHING TO BE EMBARRASSED ABOUT...
CRY TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT.

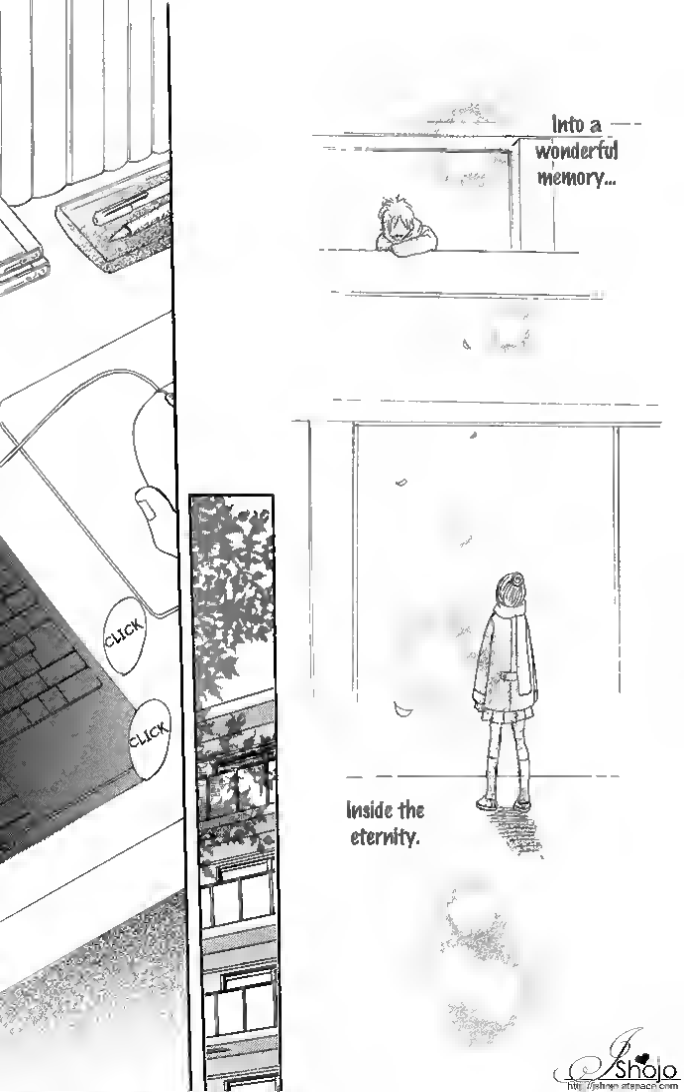
YANO HE SAID
THAT IT DIDN'T EQUAL OUT.. HE SAID IT WAS A PLUS!
IT DEFINITE-LY WASN'T A LIE!!
SINCE HE SAID THOSE WORDS... I'VE WAITED FOR HIM FOR THESE FIVE YEARS!
BUT EVEN THOUGH I DID, I CAN'T FIND HIM NOW, HE'S NOWHERE TO BE FOUND!
WAS I WRONG TO BELIEVE IN HIM?!
NO, YOU WEREN'T
TAKA-HASHI,
YOU WEREN'T WRONG.
BUT... YANO'S FEELINGS CHANGED.
WHY ...?
WHAT DID I DO WRONG?
TAKAHASHI,

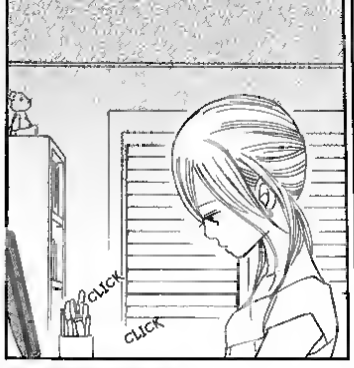
BACK THEN, WE GAVE IT OUR ALL...
WE NEITHER LIED,
NOR MADE MISTAKES.
WE DIDN'T FAIL.
AND DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG.
IT'S JUST THAT...

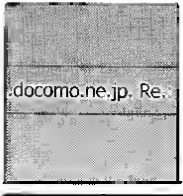
TIME...

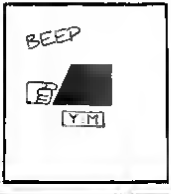
... HAS PASSED AND CHANGED IT ALL.
We didn't make mistakes,

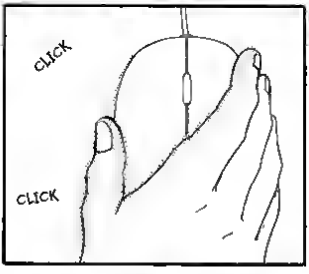
The memories, the thoughts,
Time has changed it all.
We didn't do anything wrong,
We didn't fail,
Nor we lied...
Promises to tears...
Vows to wounds...
And although at that time we did our best...
A dear person...

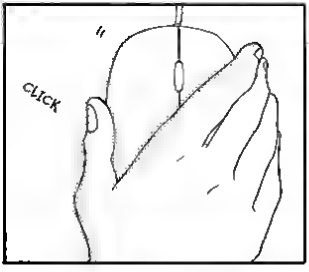

Into a wonderful memory...
CLICK
CLICK
Inside the eternity.



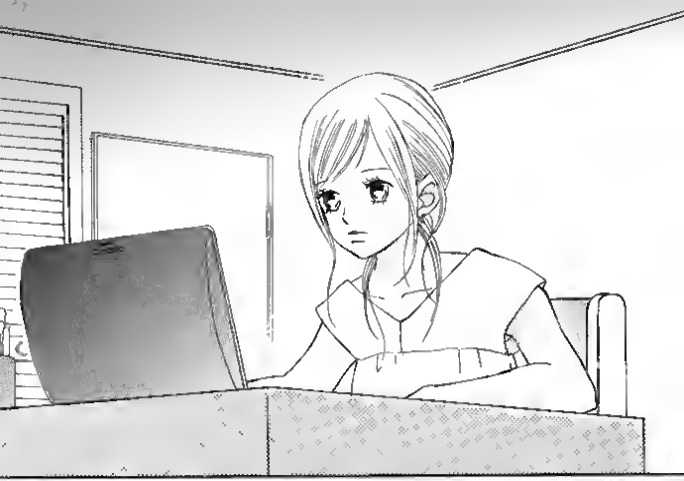








001 12/25 16:07 Sender: Yano moto07
Subject: It's warm in Tokyo.

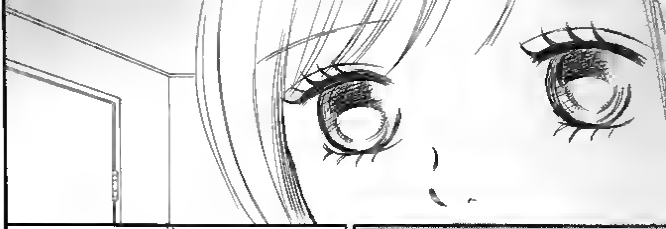


001 12/25 16:27 Sender: Yanomoto0706@docomo.ne.jp

Subject: It's warm in Tokyo.

I've just arrived. It's like spring here.
Mom's already been here three times so she's gotten used to it. She says I'll soon do, too, but it still feels a little strange.
Our flat's really small and worn out.
But I didn't complain much...
Today I left Lalami at grandma's. When we parted I got teary-eyed a little.

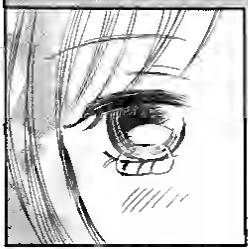
... I guess I'm just still not used to this place.
I'll call you later. What time's good for you?



064 1/7 13:55

Subject: THE Transfer Student

It's almost the end of the 5th lesson now. My class has many guys. I haven't talked to any of them yet, since it's the first day and all. But everyone's really gabby, it's a little annoying.
More importantly, to my surprise, the school seems to have a pool!!



*Note: The rank the person gets, represents how what level universities one should apply.

6/3 3:15

Subject: Congrats on passing the exams with a B rank*!

You're really amazing.
Since I failed this mock exam, I don't know the feeling, sorry.
But it doesn't matter.
If you come to Tokyo, I can just go to whichever university.

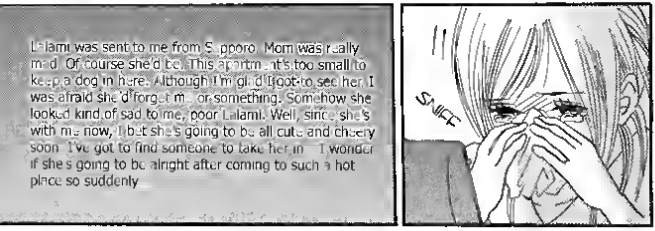
5/17 7:52

Subject

Today I swam again
It's been a long time since I was in a pool.
I can't swim as well as I could in the past though
That was a little depressing, nonetheless, it felt really nice.
Being in the water again feels wonderful.
I wonder why I quit the pool in the first place...

Subject: Idiot

I told you I don't go to group dates. If I had the money for that I'd rather go visit Nanami or Lalami... Don't you believe in me?

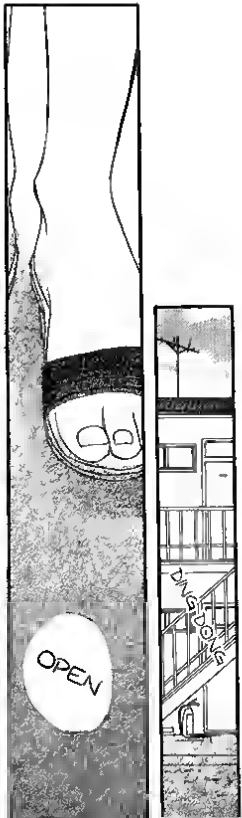

Lalami was sent to me from Sapporo. Mom was really mad. Of course she'd be. This apartment it's too small to keep a dog in here. Although I'm glad I got to see her. I was afraid she'd forget me or something. Somehow she looked kind of sad to me, poor Lalami. Well, since she's with me now, I'll bet she's going to be all cute and cheery soon. I've got to find someone to take her in... I wonder if she's going to be alright after coming to such a hot place so suddenly
SNIFF

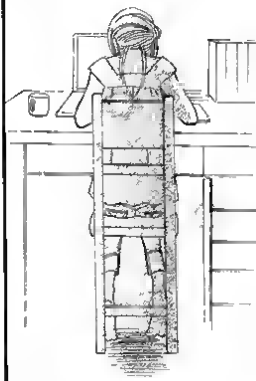
If you joined the "Freight BOX" too and I could send you stuff, wouldn't it be better?

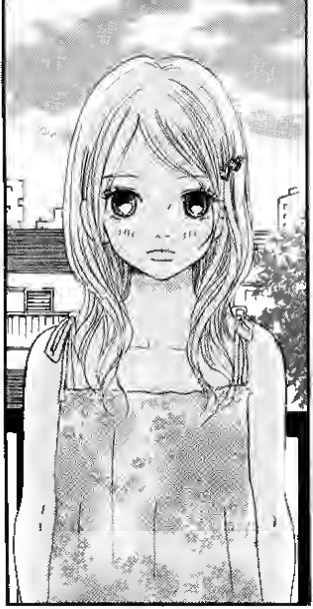
7/2 16:43

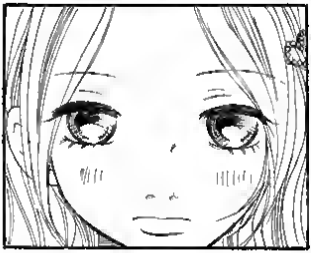
Subject: Sorry I didn't call

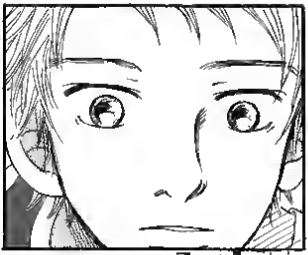
I'm alright, so don't worry. I'm just busy, that's all.
Just concentrate on yourself right now and pass the "J" University exams

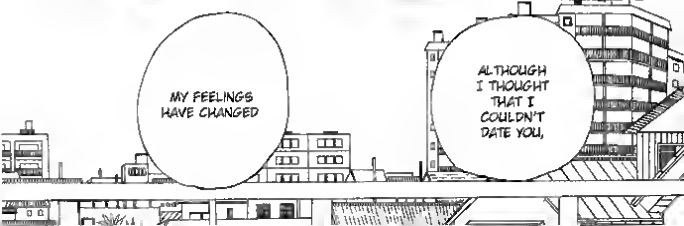

OPEN
DING DONG

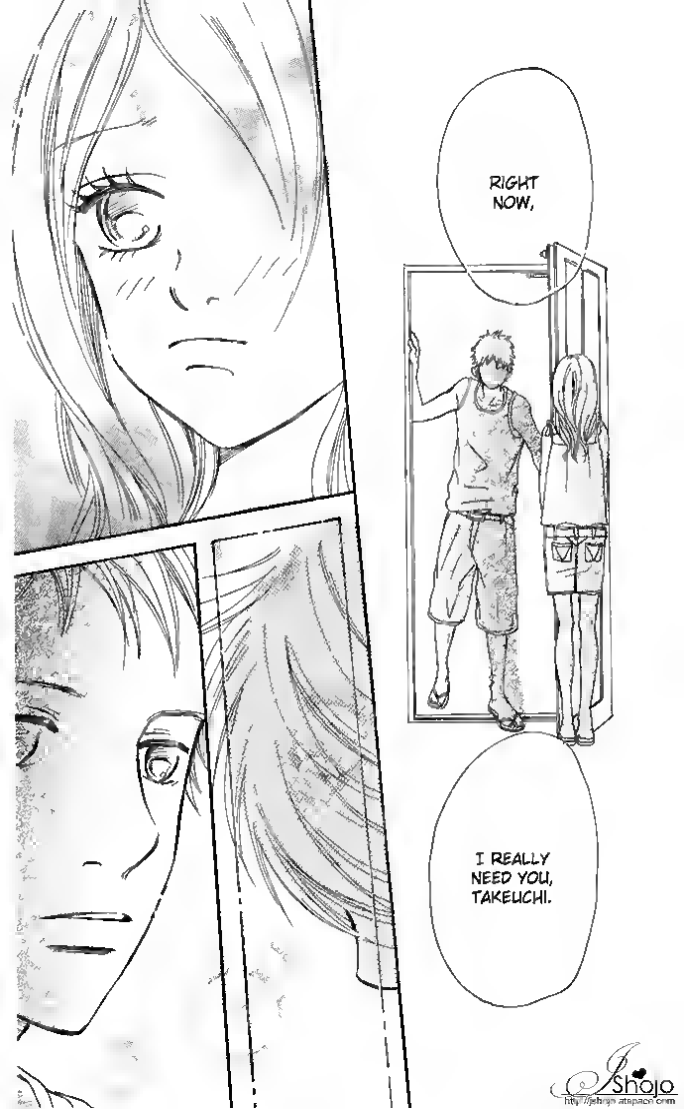




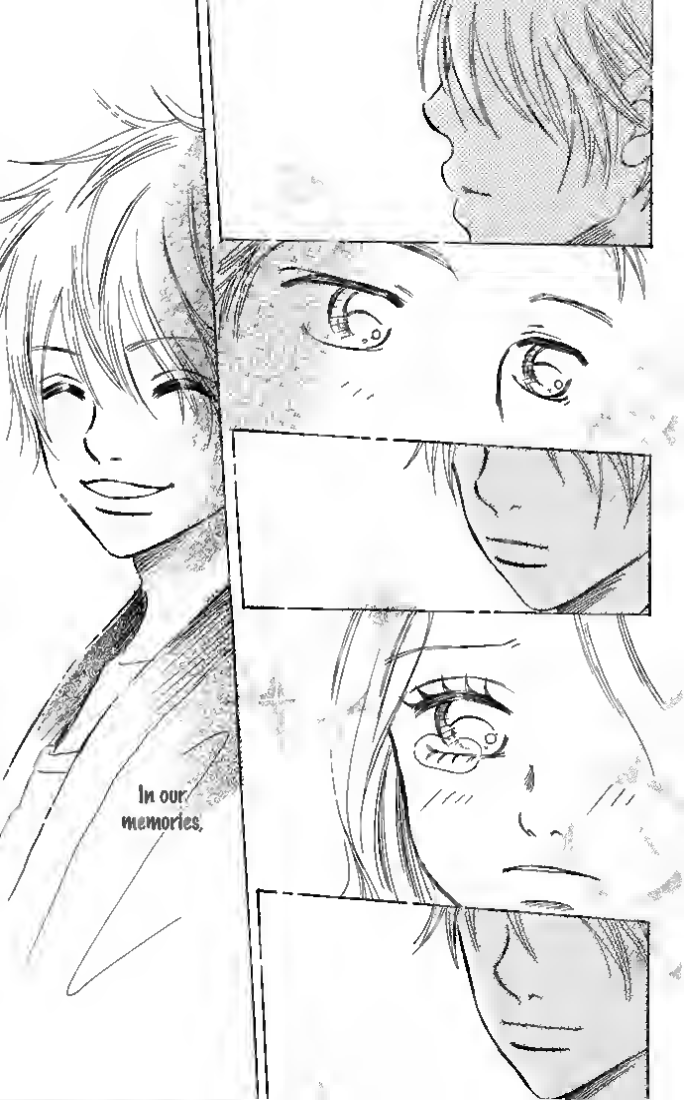





MY FEELINGS HAVE CHANGED
ALTHOUGH I THOUGHT THAT I COULDN'T DATE YOU,



Shojo
http://shojo.ateapea.com


In our
memories,

Sincerely,
And earnestly,
We were happy.
During all the moments,
AH...!
Touch
HEH,
WHAT'S WITH THAT STRANGE RING?
We laughed.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
We cried.
IT'S ALRIGHT FOR YOU NOT TO UNDERSTAND.
TAKAHASHI,
IT'S OKAY,
TAKAHASHI, YOU'RE A BIT CHUBBY YOURSELF.
Like a calf or something
SHE ISN'T!
SHE DEFINITELY IS.
SHE'S A LITTLE CHUBBY, ISN'T SHE...
W...WHAT?
Idiot!
Moron!
Pet lover!
DON'T WORRY, IT'S ALRIGHT TO BE A LITTLE CHUBBY.
I'm not chubby, you idiot!

That's why, one day, when I look back, I'm sure these memories will be dear to my heart.

Credits

SCANS

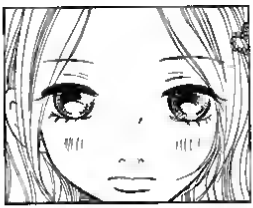
TRANSLATOR

EDITOR

QUALITY CHECK

Chapter 34

AAA AHH ...!
5 (Western)
2DK 11.5
Hamadayama
2DK 12
Umaori
By foot 7 min
By bus 7 min
6 (Western)
6 (Japanese)
DK 10
By foot 12 min
By bus 8 min
10 (Western)
DK 6
2DK?!
APARTMENT LISTINGS?
WHAT IS THIS? LET ME SEE!!
Apart'man
NANAMI! DON'T TELL ME, YOU'VE FINALLY...
DECIDED TO MOVE IN WITH TAKEUCHI?!
Shhh
KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN, SHIO-CHIN!



Shojo
http://shojo.atspace.com

Even though she says that...
Meanie!
I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
WHY ARE YOU ASKING SUCH THINGS ALL OF A SUDDEN?!
WH...
Is this even something to be blushing about nowadays?
Are you some maiden or something?
Takeuchi-kun hasn't as much as touched me...
YOU MUST'VE WANTED TO EAT OUT!
And I've been eating out, too.
SIZZLE
SORRY...!
...since that time.

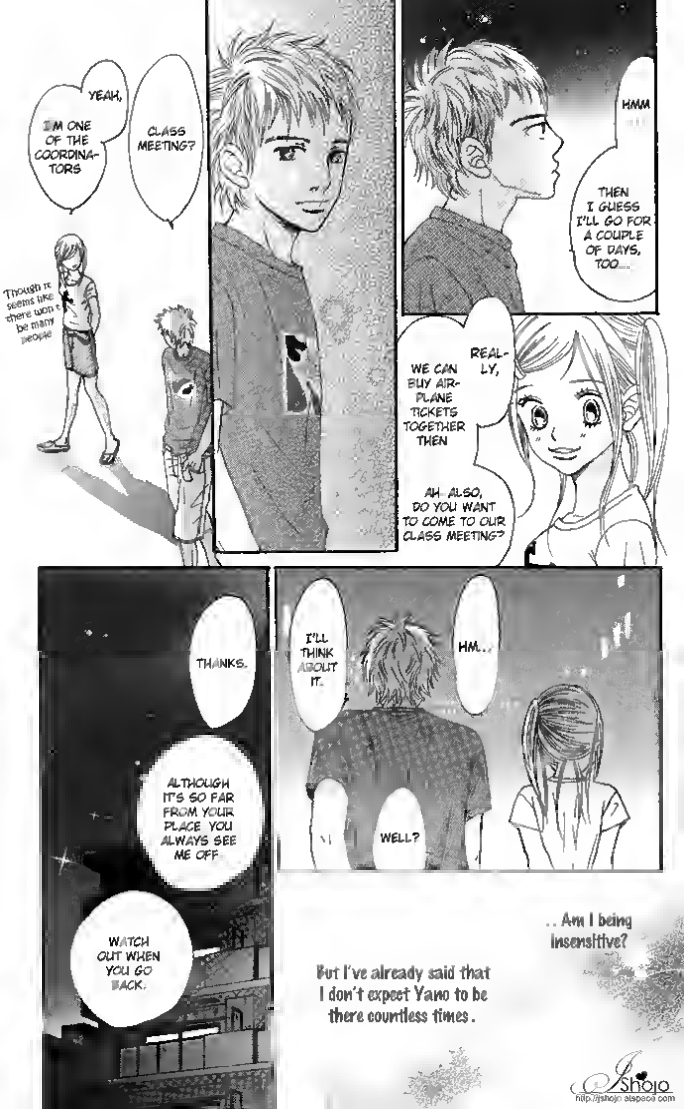
UMM
DO YOU NEED HELP?
IT'S OKAY, I'M HANDLING IT!
NO,
IT'S OKAY LIKE THIS ONCE IN A WHILE
I'LL BE LESS BUSY STARTING FROM THIS FRIDAY,
WE CAN GO EAT SOMETHING GOOD THEN.
SIZZL
SIZZL
SIZZL
SIZZL
SIZZL
This situation...
...is so strange
I could never feel comfortable and relaxed with any other guy except Yano
So to be sitting here like this, in a guy's room, in the evening, just after a couple weeks of dating..
I never thought it could be possible for me.
But...

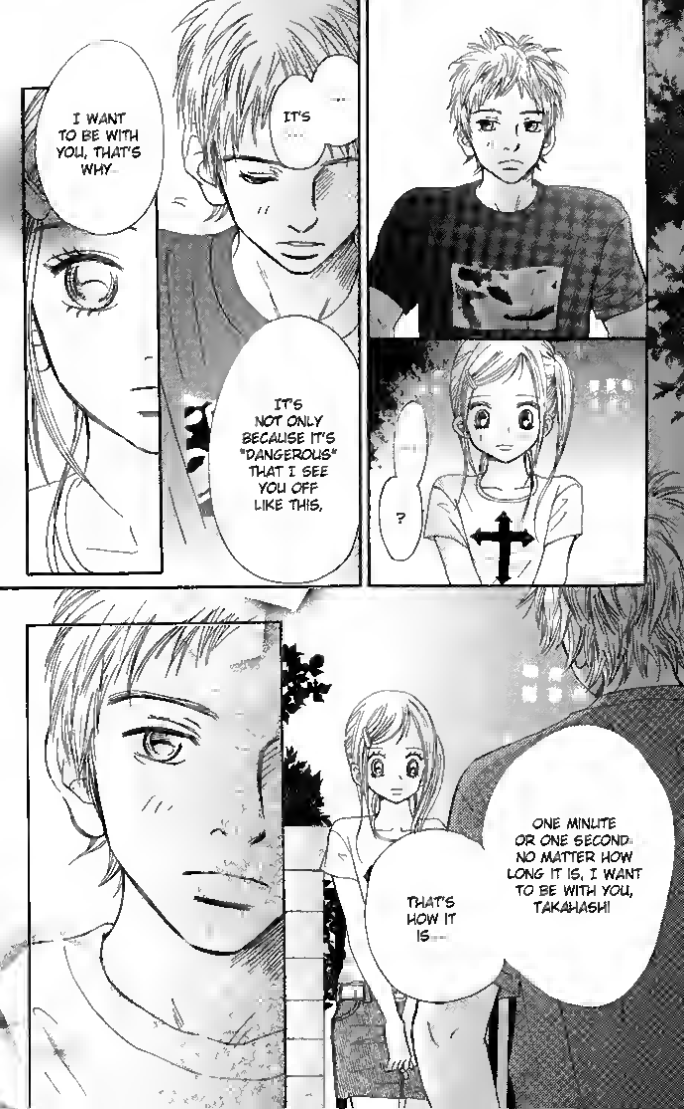
As far as I can remember Yano's room was always clean.
Although it did get quite messy after he got Lalami.
HERE YOU GO!
WOW!
Thanks.
SO QUICK!
PHEW
THANK GOODNESS!
IT WOULDN'T BE TOO GOOD IF HE WAS CLEANER THAN ME
..it's probably just because we've known each other for so long.
So long that it's even scary..
IT'S QUITE MESSY IN HERE
WH
WHAT IS THIS
Did I mistake salt with sugar?
HUH ?!
WHAT IS IT?
Shiver
Shiver
OKAY, I'LL TRY IT!
!
CHOMP
NOTHING TURNS NEARLY AS GOOD AS THIS
HA HA HA!
You're exaggerating!
ACTUALLY, I CAN'T COOK ANYTHING BUT FRIED RICE
HUH?
BUT IT'S JUST FRIED RICE WITH LEAF MUSTARD...
TAKEUCHI-KUN, ARE YOU A GENIUS OR SOMETHING?
HOW COME?
HUH?
IT'S REALLY GOOD!
SHOCK
I'VE NEVER EATEN SUCH DELICIOUS FRIED RICE IN MY LIFE.

I'm frequently being told that I look like a family-oriented person...
ACTUALLY I'M...
...NOT GOOD AT COOKING AT ALL
I finally revealed it..
Phew...
YEAH, I FIGURED AS MUCH.
Saga
I USED TO MAKE CARBONARA AND CHOCOLATE CAKES BEFORE, BUT...
Ah,
I was practicing for Yano's sake
AH, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I HATE COOKING OR ANYTHING.
Probably
THEN,
When Yano laughed, the corners of his lips would go up
His smile showed that he was really enjoying himself!
OKAY!
WE'LL BROADEN THE MENU!
FROM NOW ON, WE CAN SOMETIMES COOK TOGETHER!

I thought creating memories was hard
but I guess I was wrong
But when Takeuchi-kun laughs, the corner of his eyes go down. His smile is really gentle!
My face starts looking gentle, too.
AH!
IT'S ALREADY THIS LATE.
YEAH,
THERE'S ALSO THE CLASS MEETING, SO I GUESS I'LL GO AROUND THE 10TH ...
IT'S ALL-RIGHT.
YOU'LL WASTE A LOT OF TIME
IT'S NOT THAT DANGEROUS.
I'LL ACCOMPANY YOU TO THE DORMITORY.
UNTIL THE STATION IS OKAY
ARE YOU GOING BACK FOR THE O-BON[1] TAKAHASHI?

Note: O-bon or only Bon is a Japanese Buddhist holiday (festival) to honor the departed spirits of the ancestors


YEAH, I'M ONE OF THE COORDINATORS
CLASS MEETING?
Though it seems like there won't be many people
HMM...
THEN I GUESS I'LL GO FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS, TOO...
REALLY,
WE CAN BUY AIRPLANE TICKETS TOGETHER THEN
AH, ALSO, DO YOU WANT TO COME TO OUR CLASS MEETING?
THANKS.
ALTHOUGH IT'S SO FAR FROM YOUR PLACE YOU ALWAYS SEE ME OFF.
WATCH OUT WHEN YOU GO BACK.
I'LL THINK ABOUT IT.
HM...
WELL?
.. Am I being insensitive?
But I've already said that I don't expect Yano to be there countless times.


I WANT TO BE WITH YOU, THAT'S WHY...
IT'S...
IT'S NOT ONLY BECAUSE IT'S "DANGEROUS" THAT I SEE YOU OFF LIKE THIS,
...?
ONE MINUTE OR ONE SECOND. NO MATTER HOW LONG IT IS, I WANT TO BE WITH YOU, TAKAHASHI!
THAT'S HOW IT IS...

Although he just gave such a speech...
He's going back without a single kiss.
OKAY.
.....
THEN ...
GOOD NIGHT!

GOOD AFTER-NOON
WELCOME PLEASE COME THIS WAY
YES, THANK YOU
PHEW... I BARELY MADE IT!
AH, GOOD AFTER-NOON
HEL-LO
I'm nervous all of a sudden
Everyone looks so clever..
Only other three people got a same offer!
No way.
Everyone's amazing...
SHIN TSUJIUCHI, "W" UNI-VERSITY.
Wow...
I'M RYO HIRATA, "K" UNIVERSITY
Mutsuki
THERE ARE LESS PEOPLE I THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE
Y
YEAH
HEY,
WHY DON'T WE INTRODUCE OUR-SELVES?

Serious face
I've got to look smart, too!
"S" ALL-GIRLS UNIVERSITY,
TAKAHASHI NANA—
"TAKAHASHI"?
HUH?
AH,
...YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
I'M SHIORI'S FRIEND FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL!
"TAKAHASHI"...
"NANAMI"?

I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT YOU
NICE TO FINALLY MEET YOU
Newly found respect
AND SHE'S FROM THE "J" UNIVERSITY THE SAME ONE I WANTED TO GET INTO!
Wow! Shio-chin's friends are all beauties!!
HA HA!
SAME HERE!
HOW DID YOU KNOW IT WAS ME—?
!
SHIO-CHIN'S ?!
MY NAME'S SENGENJI "J" UNIVERSITY.
"AKI-CHAN" ?!
HA HA HA!
AKIKO SENGENJI
YES, THAT'S RIGHT
Blush
R... REALLY ?
What an honor..
WAS SHE REALLY ANTICIPATING THAT MUCH ?
She seems like a really frank person..
ALTHOUGH WE INTRODUCED OURSELVES JUST NOW,
THAT'S BECAUSE I'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO MEET YOU.

THIS DOESN'T FEEL LIKE OUR FIRST MEETING, DOES IT?
... Somehow...
Her laughter feels very nostalgic.
But for some reason, this feeling,
Does Shio-chin talk about me that much...?
It's really well known from before. I missed it...
TAKA-HASHI,
IS IT REALLY OKAY NOT TO DEPOSIT YOUR LUGGAGE?

Note: *A famous type of confectionary from Hokkaido. (Shiroi Koibito is also known as "White Beloved One".)

Tokyo Mang
Good luck on your trip.
Say hi to your parents for me.
Bye!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
Never-mind.
Ah
?
HUH?
YOU BOUGHT SOME?
Tokyo mangas?
I CAN'T JUST TRY THEM AND LEAVE...
MY MY
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
NO IT'S NOTHING
YOU CAN SIT NEAR THE WINDOW IF YOU WANT
OKAY!
THANKS
IT MUST BE HEAVY
IT'S OKAY
SHALL I PUT THIS IN AS WELL?
YEAH THANKS!
HEH HEH!
HEE HEE!
Somehow

...we look like newly-weds.
AH!
LOOK!
LOOK!
WHAT A VIEW!!
TAKEUCHI-KUN,
HEY, LOOK AT THIS,
I can see clearly, yeah!
YEAH
YOU ARE RIGHT
No way!!
Ah, you found out.
I CAN... AS LONG AS I DON'T LOOK DOWN
SO YOU CAN'T, FOR EXAMPLE CLIMB TO HIGH PLACES?
Is that so
A FEAR OF HEIGHTS?
TAKEUCHI-KUN... DO YOU MAYBE HAVE...

HOW ABOUT THE FERRIS WHEEL?
IT'S OKAY IF I LOOK VERY FAR INTO THE DISTANCE.
Very far, huh?
AND JET COASTERS?
AH. THAT'S JUST FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN TO BEGIN WITH.
Ah, it's just like you to say this, kind of sarcastic
COULD YOU CLIMB TO THE TOP OF A HIGH MOUNTAIN?
I BROKE HIM DOWN
AH. THAT I COULD DO WITHOUT A PROBLEM!
YEAH, I KIND OF KNEW.
HE WOULD FREAK OUT, WHEN WE WENT INTO A ROOM WITH LOW CEILINGS
I THINK SOMETHING HIGHER, LIKE A LOCKER, WOULD BE FINE,
BUT A TENRUKURO WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM.
He used to say that if he entered one, it would be the end of him
DID YOU KNOW?
HAD CLAUSTRO-PHOBIA, DIDN'T HE?
YANO, HE..
YEAH, BUT ALSO,
THE FEAR OF PLACES WITH LOW CEILINGS
Hey climb up here!
There is no way I'm climbing there.
That doesn't even come up to my waist!
Anyway
WE USED TO PLAY AROUND LIKE THAT!
HA HA HA
*Write storage space above the closet

HA HA HA!
I REMEMBER HE ONCE SAID THAT HE WOULD DEFINITELY DIE IF HE SOMEHOW ENDED UP IN A TRUNK OF A CAR!
Sigh
I wonder how long it's been...
Since I laughed while talking about Yano..
TAKAHASHI, IF YOU...
WOULD SOMEHOW GET STUCK...
IN HIGH, SMALL OR CRAMPED SPACE...
IT WOULD BE A BIG PROBLEM, WOULDN'T IT?

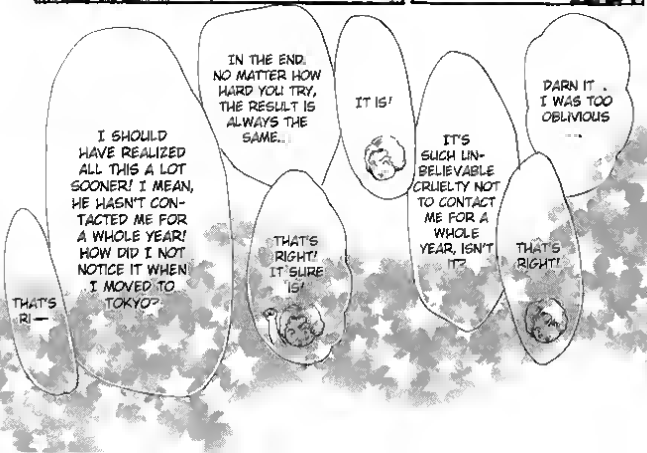
Y...NO WILL PROBABLY NEVER BE THERE FOR ME AGAIN,
HOWEVER, I BELIEVE THAT YOU...
...WOULD DEFINITELY COME TO HELP ME
...RIGHT?
YEAH, OF COURSE, I WOULD
I'm so glad...

GOOD AFTER-NOON,
MY NAME IS NANAMI TAKAHASHI, I AM YURI'S CLASSMATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL
HELLO?
SHE HUNG UP!
H...
How rude...
So that rumor about her being disinherited...
...was actually true...
HOW COULD SHE HANG UP ON ME LIKE THAT ...?!
BEEP
I have no idea where she is
IS THERE ANY WAY I COULD CONTACT HER?
UMM, ACTUALLY I AM CALLING BECAUSE WE ARE PLANNING A CLASS MEETING,
SHE ISN'T AT HOME RIGHT NOW ...?
AH
I WAS WONDERING IF IT WAS POSSIBLE TO FIND OUT HER CURRENT ADDRESS,
...that Takeuchi is here with me.

Since it seems she's not in Sapporo anymore.
I thought that maybe she returned back home.
I'M GOING TO TRY THE TOKYO MANGOS OKAY?
ARE THEY GOOD?
YEAH, ALTHOUGH I PREFER TOKYO BANANAS
HOW RUDE TAKEUCHI BOUGHT THEM ESPECIALLY FOR YOU
HE LOVES YOU, DOESN'T HE...
HE SEEMS TO BE A GOOD KID.
Although when you got off the plane together at the airport yesterday I was too surprised to tell
MOM,
NEXT YEAR I AND TAKEUCHI WILL BE MOVING IN TOGETHER
WHAT ...?!
LIVING WITH A MAN WHEN YOU'RE NOT EVEN MARRIED ...?!
SO IT WOULD BE ALRIGHT IF WE WERE MARRIED?
WHAT'S WITH YOU...
SAYING SUCH THINGS ALL OF A SUDDEN...
YOU'VE NEVER TALKED TO ME ABOUT STUFF LIKE THIS BEFORE
OF COURSE I'D BE SURPRISED HEARING YOU SAY IT SO SUDDENLY

I HAVEN'T THOUGHT ABOUT IT THAT MUCH MYSELF...
HEY, ... THAT REMINDS ME,
THAT BOY, WHO USED TO COME HERE VERY OFTEN...
YANO, WAS IT? WHAT HAPPENED WITH HIM?
HE LEFT ME!!
A LONG TIME AGO.
...IS THAT SO?!
BUT I'M ALRIGHT NOW! I GOT OVER IT ALREADY
AAH... AND YOU GOT ALONG SO WELL ...
I REMEMBER YOUR WAY OF LAUGHING WAS REALLY SIMILAR
WE WERE ONLY KIDS BACK THEN.
CHANGES IN OUR LIVES HAD TOO MUCH INFLUENCE ON OUR FEELINGS
REALLY NOW ...?!
THERE WAS NO SUCH THING FOR ME AND YOUR FATHER!
We're dating since high school!
YEAH ... WELL ...

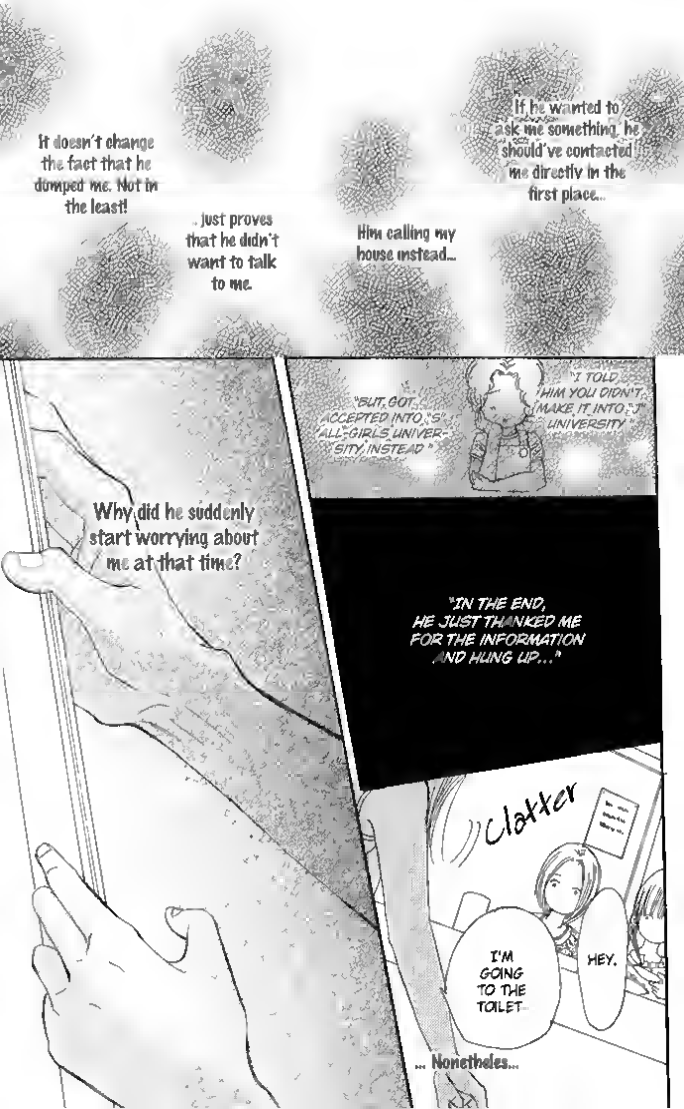
IT MUST BE IN MY GENES...
BECAUSE I ALWAYS BELIEVED...
...THAT WE WOULD END UP TOGETHER... NO MATTER WHAT
THAT REMINDS ME! IN THE PAST, WHEN YOU TOLD ME THAT STORY ABOUT YOU TWO, I NEVER BELIEVED SUCH RELATIONSHIP COULD EVER EXIST!
THAT'S SO RUDE!
HUH?!


I SHOULD HAVE REALIZED ALL THIS A LOT SOONER! I MEAN, HE HASN'T CONTACTED ME FOR A WHOLE YEAR! HOW DID I NOT NOTICE IT WHEN I MOVED TO TOKYO?
THAT'S RI—
IN THE END, NO MATTER HOW HARD YOU TRY, THE RESULT IS ALWAYS THE SAME...
THAT'S RIGHT! IT SURE IS!
IT IS!
IT'S SUCH UNBELIEVABLE CRUELTY NOT TO CONTACT ME FOR A WHOLE YEAR, ISN'T IT?
THAT'S RIGHT!
DARN IT. I WAS TOO OBLIVIOUS...

HUH?
THERE WAS...
A CALL...?
Jeez
I look like an idiot now...
I THINK IT WAS THE SPRING OF THE YEAR YOU MOVED TO TOKYO
Right after you got accepted to university
HMM...
WHEN WAS IT EXACTLY?
Stand
YES, THERE WAS A CALL...
IT SEEMED LIKE HE ALREADY KNEW YOU LEFT...
WHY...?

"HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW?"
"YOU NEVER TALKED TO ME ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT."
"IT'S NOT LIKE HE SAID ANYTHING IMPORTANT..."
"NO WAY!"
"HE DIDN'T ASK ANYTHING, NOT EVEN WHERE YOU LIVED..."
"HE JUST SAID HELLO, THAT'S ALL."
"WHAT ELSE DID HE SAY?!"
"... AND... HMM..."
"... WHAT WAS IT ..."
"AH, THAT'S RIGHT..."
...WHY...
DIDN'T YOU TELL ME RIGHT AFTER IT HAPPENED?

Arabesque greenling grilled with
650
HA HA HA HA!
WHEN IS TAKEUCHI-KUN COMING?
Huh?
NANA!!
"HE ASKED ME IF YOU GOT ACCEPTED TO UNIVERSITY."
AH ....
SO, I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY ....
HE SAID HE'D COME IF HE FELT LIKE IT ....
I TOLD HIM THE TIME AND THE PLACE.
UMM ....
Huuuh? Really?
Arabesque greenling scallop grilled in with salt
Stop it!
TAKAHASHI, PASS THE MENU!
I can't let this bother me now
AH, HERE.
WE WANT TO ORDER SOME MORE!
CHATTER CHATTER
HA HA HA HA!

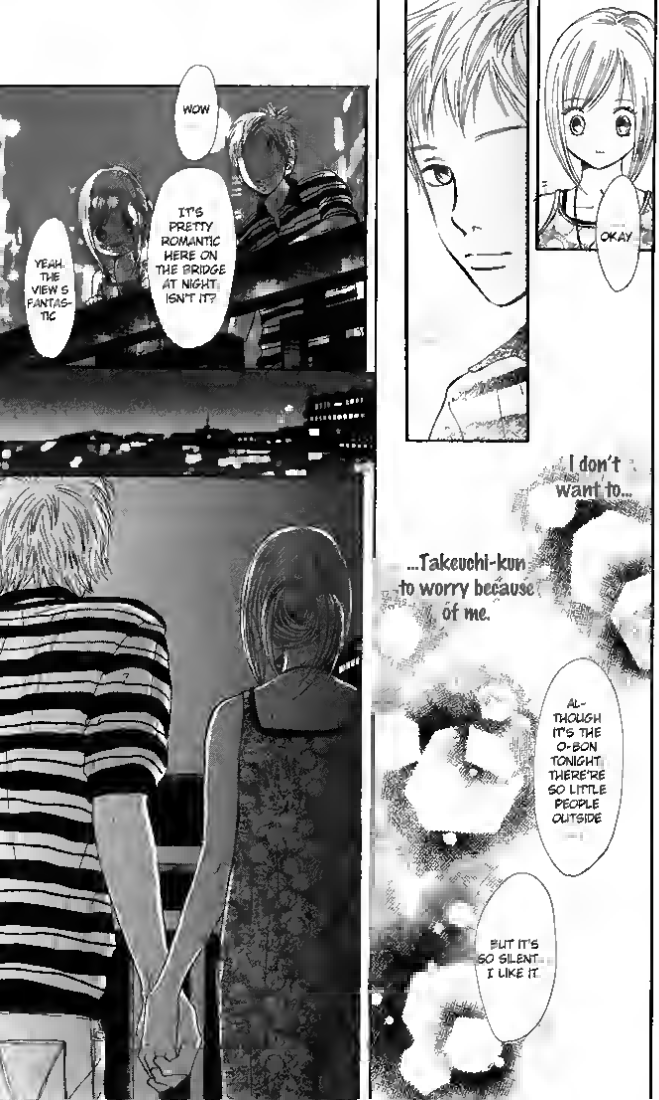

It doesn't change the fact that he dumped me. Not in the least!
...just proves that he didn't want to talk to me.
Him calling my house instead...
If he wanted to ask me something, he should've contacted me directly in the first place...
"BUT, GOT ACCEPTED INTO "S" ALL-GIRLS UNIVERSITY, INSTEAD."
"I TOLD HIM YOU DIDN'T MAKE IT INTO "J" UNIVERSITY."
Why did he suddenly start worrying about me at that time?
"IN THE END, HE JUST THANKED ME FOR THE INFORMATION AND HUNG UP..."
clatter
I'M GOING TO THE TOILET.
HEY.
...Nonetheless...

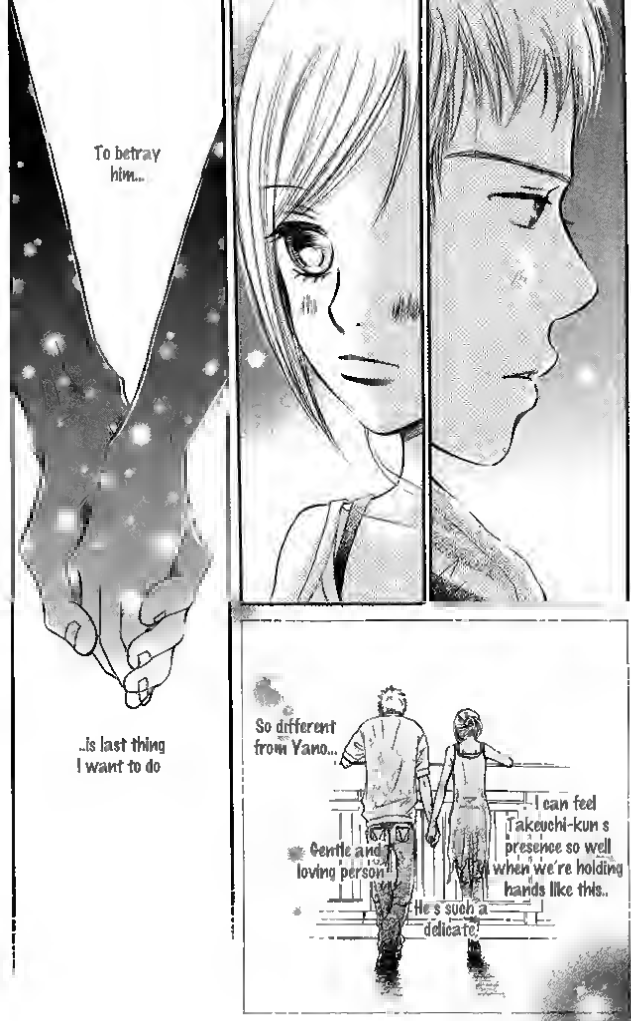
TAKAHASHI?
SORRY I'M LATE!
AH, IT'S OKAY.
Takeuchi-kun!
It's Takeuchi-kun!
ARE YOU OKAY? YOU'RE A BIT PALE
I'M FINE...
Get a grip, on yourself, Nanami!
I WAS JUST GOING TO THE TOILET.
COME IN!
Have a seat!
Heeey!! It's Takeuchi-kun! Long time no see!

Takeuchi!!
You're really awesome..!!
HUH ?!
MIZU-CHIN, YOU'RE COM-PLETELY DRUNK!
No Seriously listen to me!!
Hey, it's overflowing!
Or rather, the question is
Why didn't you snatch her right away? ... Right from the start of university?
This man!! He waited for Nanami for FIVE years!
AHH.
FOR THE TIME BEING. CHEERS!
TAKEUCHI-KUN, HAVE SOME POTATOES!
Thanks!
Can you believe it?! In this day and age! It's amazing !!

Shojo
http://shojo.otspace.com

Here, have some more!
WOW! THESE POTATOES IN BUTTER ARE GREAT!
HOKKAIDO POTATOES ARE THE BEST AFTER ALL
Heeey...!
Don't change the subject, sir.
SORRY, I'M GOING TO THE TOILET, TOO
Clack
YAY! YAY!
HA HA HA!!
ARE YOU OKAY?
You were so long in there, I started worrying...
... AH,
YEAH, I'M FINE.
I THINK I JUST HAD TOO MUCH TO DRINK...
I passed out a bit in there.
LET'S GET SOME FRESH AIR.


WOW
IT'S PRETTY ROMANTIC HERE ON THE BRIDGE AT NIGHT, ISN'T IT?
YEAH. THE VIEW'S FANTASTIC
OKAY
I don't want to...
...Takeuchi-kun to worry because of me.
AL-THOUGH IT'S THE O-BON TONIGHT, THERE'RE SO LITTLE PEOPLE OUTSIDE
BUT IT'S SO SILENT. I LIKE IT


To betray him...
...is last thing I want to do
So different from Yano...
Gentle and loving person
I can feel Takeuchi-kun s presence so well when we're holding hands like this..
He s such a delicate

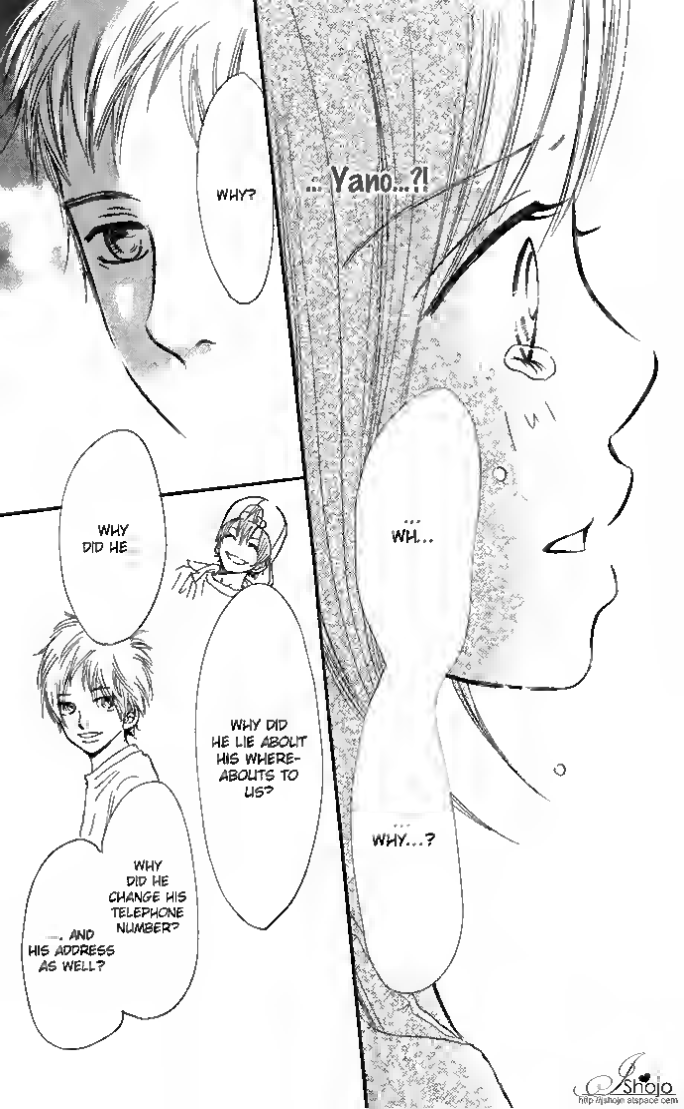
THIS AFTERNOON MY MOM TOLD ME THAT YANO CALLED OUR HOUSE THREE YEARS AGO
ABOUT WHAT?
YOU KNOW,
I WAS HAVING DOUBTS TODAY.
HM?
TAKEUCHI-KUN,
squeeze
I DON'T KNOW WHY HE DID IT.
BUT IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT HE DIDN'T CONTACT ME AT ALL AFTER THIS.
I REALIZE, THIS IS NOT EVEN WORTH THINKING ABOUT!
I REALLY MUST BE STUPID
I've made up my mind
My heart won't sway from now on!
BUT...
I DON'T WANT TO KEEP ANY SECRETS FROM YOU, THAT'S WHY I'M TELLING YOU THIS
THE ONLY THING ABOUT YANO THAT I STILL WANT TO KNOW...
IS THE REASON WHY HE DISAPPEARED FROM MY LIFE LIKE THAT

AH LET'S CHANGE THE SUBJECT!
From now on I'll move forward holding Takeuchi-kun's hand.
TAKEUCHI-KUN, KISS ME!
PROMISE ME...
...YOU WON'T LEAVE ME.
Don't leave me!

Ah...
...at a time like this...?
Why... does this face appear...
...is really similar to the way Yano used to call me...
Now that I think about it...
Her way of calling my name...
If you do, my smile will definitely become as gentle as yours.
Promise me you will...
Hold my hand tightly.
Stay by my side.

.....
HUH?
THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN HIDING FROM YOU
Really similar!
ACTUALLY, THREE YEARS AGO,
YANO CONTACTED ME, TOO.
SORRY, TAKAHASHI!

...They...
met?
...
HUH ...?
He met
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?!
HE ASKED ME NOT TO. .
HE CAME TO SEE ME.
ALSO . THREE YEARS AGO,

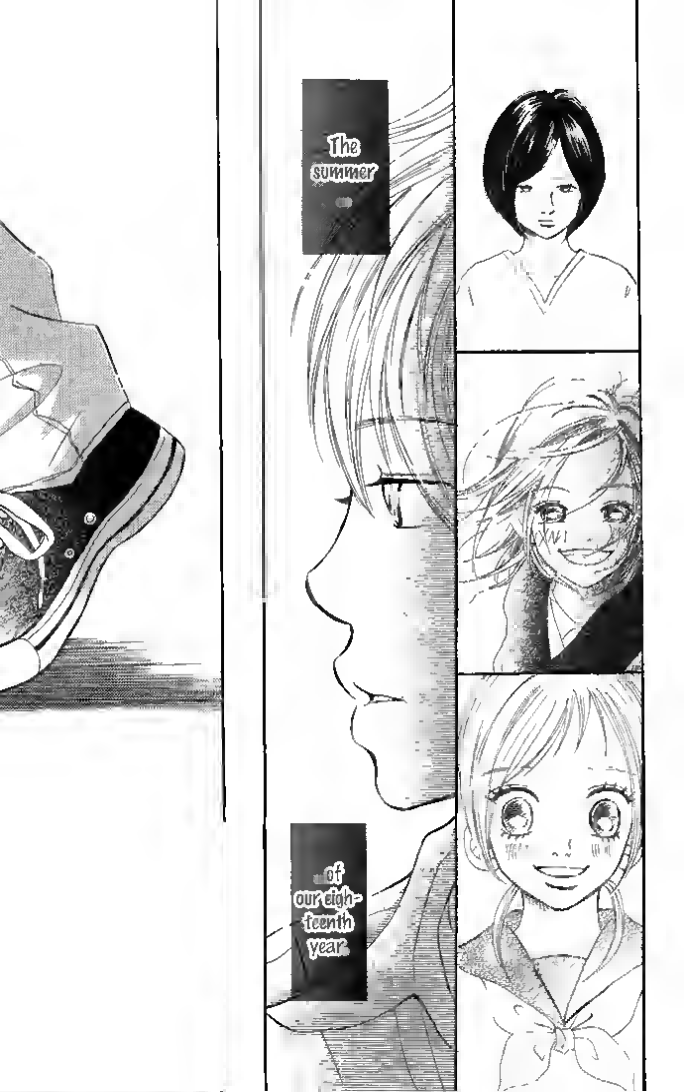

WHY?
...Yano...?!
...
WH...
...
WHY...?
WHY DID HE
WHY DID HE LIE ABOUT HIS WHEREABOUTS TO US?
WHY DID HE CHANGE HIS TELEPHONE NUMBER?
... AND HIS ADDRESS AS WELL?

... THAT TIME?
"TAKE CARE..."
" OF TAKAHASHI."
AND WHY...
...DIDN'T I COME TO REASON SOONER AND NAB YOU AT THAT TIME?

What...
...happened to him that year...?
Chirr
Chirr
...in the world...

PLOP
clatter
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
drop

Chirr
Chirr
Chirr
Chirr


The summer
of our eighteenth year

It was the season...

that marked the end.

Credits

SCANS

TRANSLATOR

EDITOR

QUALITY CHECK

Chapter 35

Someone once said that...

...memories are just fractions of mind.

When we remember, we fiddle these fractions around in, what we think, the right way.
Therefore, memories are creations.

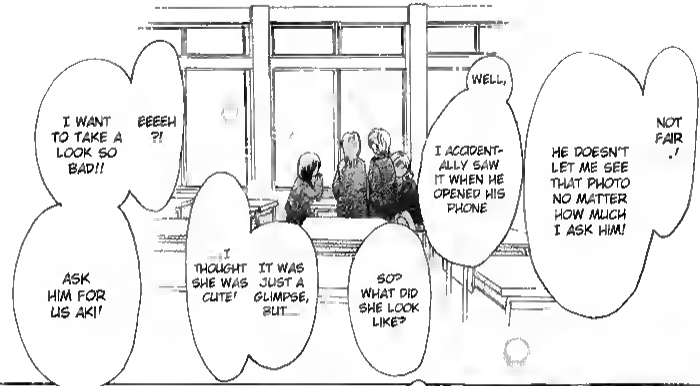
To remember means to dream...

... And memories themselves are nothing more than mere illusions.

CLONK
CLONK
CLONK
CLONK
CLONK
ood morning!!
Today marks the
two-month date
you've left for
Tokyo! Feels like
forever that you've
been gone. I wish
time would go as
fast as in a PE
lesson!

I try to remember him...
His words,
Smile,
Voice...
Giggle
LO-OK! AH
CLOK
He looked straight at me.
Waah!
CLOK
CLOK

But when I gather the fractions of my memory together...
...the vivid image that comes up in my mind...
...is probably not the real him anymore.
Because by that time...
...he had already lost his existence.
NO WAY!
SERIOUSLY?!
YOU REALLY SAW HER?!
THAT TAKAHASHI?


I WANT TO TAKE A LOOK SO BAD!!
EEEEH ?!
ASK HIM FOR US AKI!
I THOUGHT SHE WAS CUTE!
IT WAS JUST A GLIMPSE, BUT...
SO? WHAT DID SHE LOOK LIKE?
I ACCIDENTALLY SAW IT WHEN HE OPENED HIS PHONE
WELL,
HE DOESN'T LET ME SEE THAT PHOTO NO MATTER HOW MUCH I ASK HIM!
NOT FAIR .!

My first "memory" of him was in winter.

It was the first day of the third semester in the second year of high school.

Motohara

The whole class was in a huge uproar.

Wow! He's such a cutie!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "FAMILIAL REASONS"?
ERM...
DIVORCE
ACTUALLY, MY MOTHER WAS THE ONE WHO INITIATED IT, BUT FOR SOME REASON, I WAS LEFT WITH MY STEPFATHER'S SURNAME.
I DON'T KNOW WHY THOUGH
I left it to the adults
HA HA HA
"DID YOU SEE? THE NEW STUDENT FROM THE 5TH CLASS IS SO HOT!"
"YEAH I DID! HE'S SO COOL, YET CUTE, TOO!"
"BUT, YOU KNOW HE'S OUT OF OUR REACH..."
"HUH?! WHY?"
"I HEARD HE HAS A GIRLFRIEND BACK IN HOKKAIDO!"
Akiko Sengenji, 17 years old,

I was never so interested in a guy who already had a girlfriend...
HEY YANO,
SHOW US A PHOTO OF TAKAHASHI.
I REALLY NEED TO CUT MY HAIR...
AHH
YEAH, YOU SHOULD YOUR FACE LOOKS KIND OF GLOOMY WITH LONGER HAIR.
UMM.
HEL-LO?!
HMM... BUT I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MONEY...
STOP PRETENDING YOU DON'T HEAR US!
HUH?
HOW COME?
I HAVE TO PAY MY PHONE BILL!
I SEE...
HEY!!

ARE YOU YANO'S KNIGHT OR SOMETHING, KOHTARO?
CLUNK

Hey
SHUT UP ALREADY!
SERI-OUSLY ...!!
Really?
BUGGER OFF!!
You're so annoying!
AAH ...
I WANT TO HAVE IT CUT...

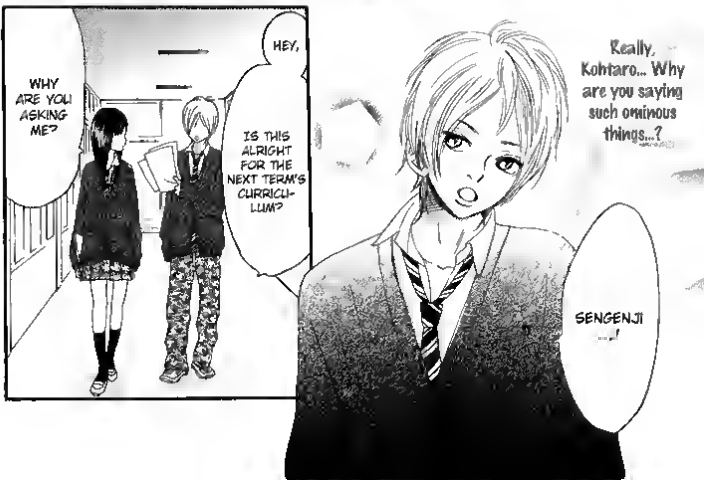
It's because Yano
...HE WAS TOO CHEEKY FOR A TRANSFER STUDENT.
DON'T TELL ME IT WAS ACTUALLY A FIGHT FOR POWER...
HUH?!

HUH?
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?
YOU BOTH RE-ALLY PUT ME IN BETWEEN YOU TWO...
Yoshiko

AND TOTHINK YOU WERE FIGHTING SO MUCH IN THE BEGINNING ...
HUUH ?!
Yeah
WELL ...

ISN'T THAT YANO FROM A PUBLIC SCHOOL?
IT MUST'VE BEEN HARD FOR HIM TO PASS OUR SCHOOL'S ENTRANCE EXAMS...
KOH SAYS THAT...
YOU'RE JUST A COUNTRY BUMPKIN FROM SOME NO-NAME SCHOOL FULL OF IDIOTS
IS THAT "KOH" THE PERSON WHO'S IN CHARGE OF DIVIDING UP THE CLASS CHORES?
YANO SAYS
...THAT YOU'RE PRETENDING TO BE THE BOSS AROUND HERE
PRETENDING TO BE WHAT?
WHAT IS HE TAKING ME FOR, THAT IDIOT?!!
IT'S EXACTLY BECAUSE OF YOUR MINGLING THAT THINGS GOT COMPLICATED!
IT WAS JUST A LIBERAL TRANSLATION... I hate complications!!
DON'T SCREW WITH ME!!
IDIOTS
POOR YANO...
HUH? WHY?
HASP
I HEARD ABOUT HIS TELEPHONE BILLS...
OH THAT...
YEAH, HE CAN ONLY TALK TO HIS GIRLFRIEND FOR FIVE MINUTES PER DAY.
WHAT?! FIVE MINUTES?!
YEAH, HE MUST DO IT OR HE WILL EXCEED HIS MONEY LIMIT.

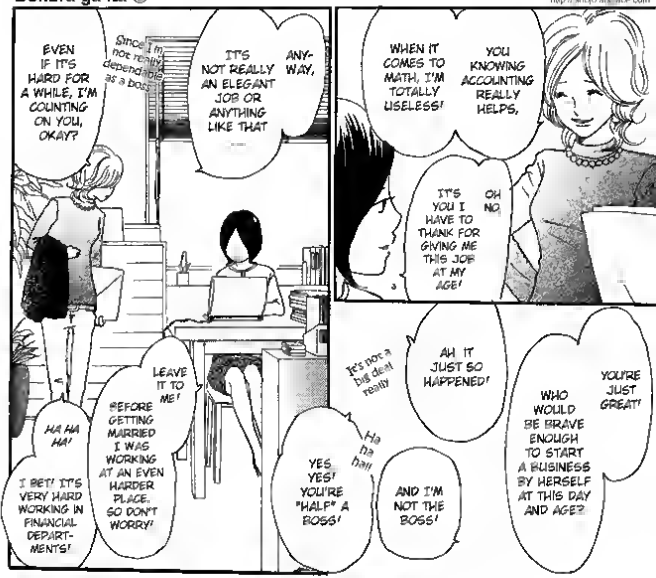
I DON'T THINK THEY WILL LAST FOR LONG LIKE THAT.
Hasp
AT THE VERY BEST, UNTIL THE NEXT SUMMER.
WOW, HE'S REALLY DEDICATED...
I DON'T THINK I COULD DO THAT.
NO ONE CAN... NOT FOR LONG ANYWAY...

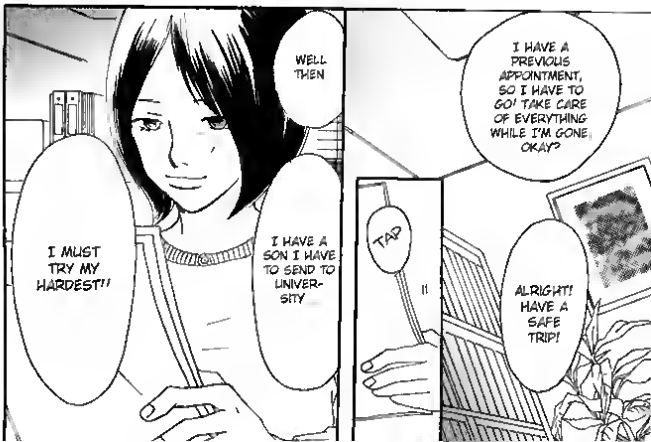

HEY,
IS THIS ALRIGHT FOR THE NEXT TERM'S CURRICULUM?
WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME?
Really, Kohtaro... Why are you saying such ominous things...?
SENGENJI...?

...Huh?!
What is it?
I HEARD FROM THE OTHERS THAT YOU KNOW EVERY-THING.
There're too many subjects I have no idea what to choose
PFFT
YES WELL IT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE AROUND HERE THAT I AM BOTH BEAUTIFUL AND SMART
I HAVE NEVER MET SUCH AN IMPUDENT PERSON BEFORE...
Amazing
ASTONISHMENT
Yes, sorry I said something unnecessary
Nonetheless...
HEY.
...when he looked at me like that, my heart started beating much faster...
I'M NOT HIDING ANYTHING
WHY ARE YOU HIDING "TAKAHASHI" FROM US?
THEN YOU COULD AT LEAST SHOW US HER PICTURE
IT'S BECAUSE...
...AS SOON AS YOU SEE IT, YOU'LL START COMPARING HER LOOKS AND SUCH...

WELL, SOMEONE WHO'S "BOTH BEAUTIFUL AND SMART" WON'T UNDERSTAND
HUH?!
But he just probably...
doesn't want us to slander about her!!
In other words, he's protecting her.
WOW
I don't understand him...
DOES HE NEED TO BE SO SARCASTIC?
THE OTHER FILES ARE ON THE SHELF
THIS IS THE CHART OF DISBURSEMENT
YOU ALSO HAVE TO ANSWER THE PHONE
I can't help but feel a bit jealous.

Shojo
http://shojo-attack.com


EVEN IF IT'S HARD FOR A WHILE, I'M COUNTING ON YOU, OKAY?
Since I'm not really dependable as a boss
IT'S NOT REALLY AN ELEGANT JOB OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT
ANY-WAY,
WHEN IT COMES TO MATH, I'M TOTALLY USELESS!
YOU KNOWING ACCOUNTING REALLY HELPS,
IT'S YOU I HAVE TO THANK FOR GIVING ME THIS JOB AT MY AGE!
OH NO
It's not a big deal really
AH IT JUST SO HAPPENED!
YOU'RE JUST GREAT!
WHO WOULD BE BRAVE ENOUGH TO START A BUSINESS BY HERSELF AT THIS DAY AND AGE?
LEAVE IT TO ME!
BEFORE GETTING MARRIED I WAS WORKING AT AN EVEN HARDER PLACE. SO DON'T WORRY!
HA HA HA!
I BET! IT'S VERY HARD WORKING IN FINANCIAL DEPARTMENTS!
Ha Da hah!
YES, YES! YOU'RE "HALF" A BOSS!
AND I'M NOT THE BOSS!


WELL THEN
I HAVE A PREVIOUS APPOINTMENT, SO I HAVE TO GO! TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING WHILE I'M GONE, OKAY?
I MUST TRY MY HARDEST!!
I HAVE A SON I HAVE TO SEND TO UNIVER-SITY
TAP
ALRIGHT! HAVE A SAFE TRIP!

IT'S THE WASHING-MACHINE
HUH?
OF COURSE I DO IT MYSELF!
OUR WASHER IS CLOSE TO ANCIENT.
It's unbelievable such washing machines still exist nowadays
MOM GOT IT FOR FREE FROM SOMEWHERE
AND THE BEST PART, IT'S OUTSIDE!!
OUTSIDE?!
UNBELIEVABLE, ISN'T IT?
IF IT WAS HOKKAIDO THE WATER PIPES WOULD FREEZE UP
YEAH,
PUSH
... SOUNDS LIKE YOU REALLY HAVE IT TOUGH THERE... IN MANY WAYS...
GLUNK
CLUNK
... WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
YEAH, I GUESS...
I EVEN HAVE TO DRY MY MOM'S PANTIES
I REALLY HAVE IT HARD.
I can't help it, it's not like I can pick the jobs I have to do...
HEY, DON'T WASTE THE MINUTES.

ARE YOU STUDYING ENOUGH?
HMM
YEAH! TODAY WE STUDIED IN THE LIBRARY ALL DAY!
WHAT?
NO NOTHING
WHAT IS IT?
WHO DO YOU MEAN BY "WE"?
HA HA HA!
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
STOP LAUGHING YOU CHUMP!
IS THAT SO?
PHEW...
THERE'S NO WAY I COULD HAVE GONE WITH TAKEUCHI-KUN...

THAT REMINDS ME... DO YOU CALL TAKEUCHI-KUN?
AH, NOT LATELY...
WHAT? THERE'S NO WAY HE WOULD...!
NOT GOOD!
HE'LL GET LONELY!
OF COURSE THERE IS! I'VE RECENTLY SHOWN HIM THE PICTURE YOU SENT ME, THE ONE WHERE YOU'RE SURROUNDED BY YOUR CLASSMATES.
ALTHOUGH HE SAID HE'S GLAD YOU FOUND NEW FRIENDS SO QUICKLY, HE LOOKED REALLY CLOISTERED.
HUUUH?!
YOU'RE DRAMATIZING AGAIN
NO, REALLY! FOR A MOMENT HIS EYES LOOKED REALLY LONELY!
TCH.
THE FIVE MINUTES ARE UP.
SO FAST.
YEAH...
TOMORROW I'LL CALL YOU AGAIN
GOOD NIGHT.

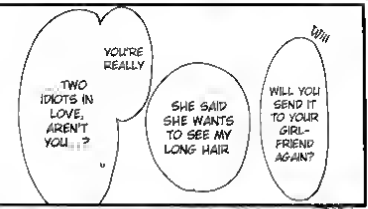
A starless sky...

YOU KNOW... THEY SAY THAT WHEN EVERY SEVEN YEARS PASS, EVERY ELEMENT IN EVERY CELL OF THE BODY REGENERATES
THAT'S NON-SENSE ....
THEN HOW COME WE STILL HAVE OUR MEMORIES?
IF EVERY-THING THAT OUR CELLS CONSIST OF CHANGES, SHOULDN'T THE MEMORIES CHANGE AS WELL?
COPYING!
...Y! FOR SUCH A CASE, THERE'S THAT...
SOUNDS LIKE MIRACLE
THERE'S NO WAY TO AVOID THIS CHANCE, IS THERE...?
What chance are you talking about?
Aaah... Here he goes again
AFTER SEVEN YEARS, THERE'S NO PART IN YOUR BODY THAT WAS THERE WHEN YOU WERE BORN.
IN SHORT, YOU'RE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON AFTER EVERY SEVEN YEARS OF YOUR LIFE

THE OLD MEMORIES ARE OVER-WRITTEN BY THEIR COPIES, THE NEW MEMORIES! DOESN'T THAT SOUND LOGICAL?
SO IT ALL COMES DOWN TO THIS,
MEMORIES ARE COPIES OF COPIES OF EVEN OLDER COPIES!
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
WOULDN'T THAT MAKE THEM DETERIORATE LITTLE BY LITTLE...?
I don't know exactly but...
PROBABLY
ISN'T THAT THE REASON WHY OLD MEMORIES BECOME VAGUE?
THERE ARE MEMORIES THAT DON'T DETERIORATE.

HMM SHOULDN'T SOMEONE WHO'S "BOTH BEAUTIFUL AND SMART" KNOW ?
FOR EXAMPLE ?
HEY, AKI! I HEARD YANO KEEPS CALLING YOU "BOTH BEAUTIFUL AND SMART"!
Well, I'm sorry, but I don't...
That Yano!
REALLY?
ISN'T THAT GREAT?
I'M SO JEALOUS
NO
IT'S ACTUALLY MORE LIKE HE'S MAKING FUN OF ME
Makes me want to slap him
ALSO, LATELY HE'S BEEN TALKING TO YOU QUITE A LOT!!
He usually just ignores us
AH THAT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE HE KNOWS THAT I DON'T HAVE ANY "SPECIAL" FEELINGS TOWARDS HIM.
YOU THINK?
Yeah that might be true
HE HAS SOME KIND OF BORDER SURROUNDING HIM
Especially when it comes to girls...

I can sometimes feel that border too...
GRIN
FLASH
YEAH IT'S LIKE WILL HE LET ME PASS IT OR NOT?!
Like a boundary!
Ah...
That might be true...


YOU'RE REALLY TWO IDIOTS IN LOVE, AREN'T YOU...?
SHE SAID SHE WANTS TO SEE MY LONG HAIR
WILL YOU SEND IT TO YOUR GIRL-FRIEND AGAIN?
WHY

WHAT HE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
Tsk A Failure!
AH,
GREAT TIMING! TAKE MY PICTURE!
SEN-GENJI!

SENGEN-JI, HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN LOVE?
I THINK YOU WOULD TURN OUT BETTER WITH CHOPSTICKS IN YOUR NOSE...

It pisses me off...
IT DOESN'T WORK FOR ME
MOSTLY BECAUSE I ALWAYS WIN AT REASONING
Ah,
He's photogenic...
IF YOU NEED REASONING WHEN IN LOVE OF COURSE IT WON'T WORK
Huh? What the hell does he mean?
It really pisses me off!
WHEN LOVE LOOSES ALL REASON, IT'S BETTER TO END IT. THAT'S MY OPINION.
IS IT REALLY FOR YOU TO SAY? YOU TWO WON'T LAST FOR LONG ANYWAY
Do you really treasure that "Takahashi" that much?
SAY THAT AGAIN AFTER WHEN YOU FALL IN LOVE.

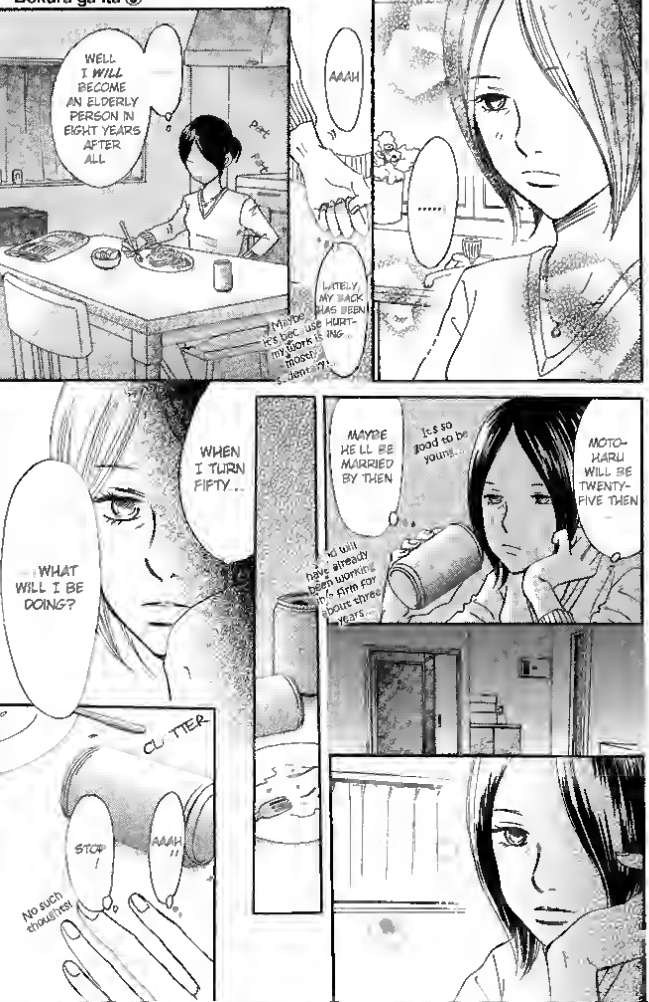
IT'S BETTER TO NOT HAVE A RELATIONSHIP AT ALL THEN TO HAVE ONE THAT DOESN'T HAVE A FUTURE...
Is she so important to you?
I'm even worse than Kohtaro...
Wow...

Shojo
http://shojo.alspace.com

IT'S EXACTLY BECAUSE I HAD THE CONFIDENCE THAT IT WOULD LAST...
...THAT I WAS ABLE TO LEAVE
...I saw Yano mad.
It was the first time...
WHY DID I SAY SUCH A HORRIBLE THING?
But if you do have the confidence, why get so mad?
HEY,

WHAT?
YOU SAW "TAKAHASHI", RIGHT?
HMM.,
NOT SURE
WELL,
SOMEONE ACCIDENTALLY SAW HER AND SAID SHE WAS CUTE,
IS IT TRUE?
WHAT IS SHE LIKE?
SHE'S NOTHING SPECIAL.
YOU'RE MUCH MORE BEAUTIFUL.

AH,
SORRY, DID I WAKE YOU?
NO,
I WASN'T ASLEEP
We have a test tomorrow so I was studying
YOU'VE BEEN DOING AN AWFUL LOT OF OVERTIME LATELY
CLACK
YES, WELL,
THE GOOD THING IS THAT I GET MORE MONEY FOR WORKING OVERTIME
IT'S A NEW FIRM SO THERE'S MUCH WORK
CLACK
I'VE LEFT YOU SOME SPAGHETTI WITH VEGETABLES.
I'VE ALREADY BOILED IT SO YOU JUST HAVE TO WARM IT UP FOR TWO MINUTES.
REALLY,
IT'S YOU WHO'S JUST A KID...
WELL AREN'T YOU RUDE? I'M ONLY FORTY-TWO!
EIGHT MORE YEARS AND YOU'RE AN ELDERLY PERSON!
Has an opinion that anyone above fifty is an old person
DON'T OVERDO IT,
YOU'RE NOT THAT YOUNG ANYMORE


WELL I WILL BECOME AN ELDERLY PERSON IN EIGHT YEARS AFTER ALL
Pant Pant
AAAH
.....
LATELY, MY BACK HAS BEEN HURTING...
Maybe it's because my work is mostly dentistry.
MOTOHARU WILL BE TWENTY-FIVE THEN
It's so good to be young...
MAYBE HE'LL BE MARRIED BY THEN
He will have already been working for a firm for about three years...
WHEN I TURN FIFTY...
WHAT WILL I BE DOING?
CLATTER
AAAH!!
STOP!
No such thoughts!

THE BEER THAT I BOUGHT THERE'S LESS OF IT
MOTO-HARU

CLACK
HASN'T SHE BEEN DRINKING QUITE A LOT LATELY...?
TINKLE

I'VE WAITED UP FOR MY MOM SO I'M AWAKE,
HM...
NO...
I WENT OUTSIDE FOR A BIT
...OF COURSE, OUR APARTMENT'S SMALL, SO EVERYTHING GOES RIGHT THROUGH...
HEY,
SEND THAT PHOTO TO ME ALREADY.
IDIOT, HOW MANY TIMES ARE YOU GOING TO RE-TAKE IT?
How much longer will I have to wait...?
HURRY UP, I WANT TO SEE YOUR "NEW FRINGE".
DON'T WORRY.
I'LL LIKE IT! I'LL DEFINITELY LIKE IT!!

HELLO?
SORRY I'M SO LATE...
...DID I WAKE YOU?

BECAUSE NO MATTER WHAT, YOU'RE ALWAYS CUTE
Ah!
Tch!
I DON'T HAVE ANY PYOR-RHEA!!
WASN'T THAT TOO SWEET?! I'LL HAVE A TOOTHACHE FROM THIS!
HEY
HM?
DO YOU KNOW THE REASON WHY A SINGLE PERSON DOESN'T FEEL LONELINESS...?
BEFORE MEETING YOU, I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO FEEL LONELY.
I NEVER EVEN CONSID-ERED MYSELF "ALONE".
THAT'S BECAUSE WHEN YOU FEEL LONELY,
IT MEANS THERE IS SOMEONE FOR YOU TO MISS.

... ALL THE GOOD THINGS, AND THE BAD THINGS
BUT THAT'S HOW IT IS. THE ROAD TO HAPPINESS IS ALWAYS FULL OF OBSTACLES
YOU STILL HAVE THE MEMORIES AS WELL.
MEMORIES THAT REMIND YOU OF ALL THE HAPPY MOMENTS TOGETHER.

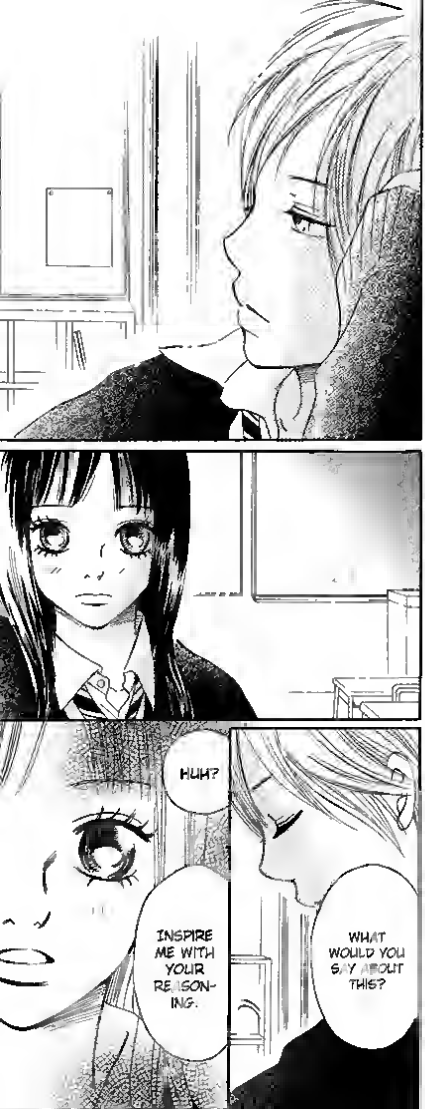
--- YANO---
I REALLY
MISS YOU.

Shojo
http://shojo.stspace.com

I THOUGHT YOU HAD GONE HOME BY NOW...
NOT YET...
HOW WAS THE EXAM TODAY?
HARD...
REALLY?
I THOUGHT ENGLISH WAS QUITE EASY
NO WONDER YOU'RE "BOTH BEAUTIFUL AND SMART", AFTER ALL.
HEY,
QUIT IT!
BECAUSE YOU'RE CALLING ME THAT, EVERYONE STARTED TEASING ME! IT'S REALLY EMBARRASSING!
WHY SHOULD I?
IT'S THE TRUTH, AFTER ALL.

SORRY ABOUT LAST TIME!
I SAID TOO MUCH.
IT'S OKAY.
I WASN'T COMPLETELY HONEST, TOO

ACTUALLY, ALL OF MY CONFIDENCE DISAPPEARED AS SOON AS I CAME HERE.
IF I KEEP BELIEVING IN US,
WE'LL DEFINITELY MAKE IT... THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT AT FIRST


BUT I LATER FOUND OUT THAT THE STRONGER THE WILL...
...THE STRONGER THE FEELING OF LOSS...
HUH?
INSPIRE ME WITH YOUR REASONING.
WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ABOUT THIS?
Shojo
http://shojo.alspace.com

IT'S QUITE HARD
IT'S.
YOU'RE RIGHT
SORRY!

WHICH WAY'S YOUR HOME?
IT'S IN DENEN CHOUFU
Wow, your parents must be rich then

UMM
YOU KNOW

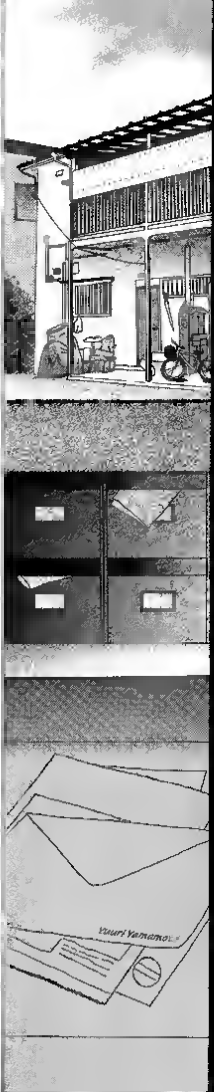
IT'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.
No...
"It will be okay."
Not it...
"It's going to work out."
Hang in there.
WHAT IS?
YOU AND "TAKAHASHI"
HUH?
OH.

Not it either...
IF YOUR HEART'S HAPPY
...YOU CAN ACCEPT THE FUTURE WHATEVER IT MIGHT TURN OUT TO BE
...IF...
THAT'S WHY YOU TWO ARE GOING TO BE ALRIGHT!

I said something strange
... OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
ALTHOUGH I'M NOT TOO SURE ABOUT "TAKAHASHI"
WANT TO TAKE A LOOK?

Does this mean...
Ah!
HUH?
THE PICTURE OF HER.
NO WAY!
SHE'S SO CUTE...!
...that I was allowed to pass the border...?
He's such a liar!
YEAH, I GUESS...
That Kohtaro
REALLY REALLY CUTE!!

But for him
to be laughing
like this...
I will always remember the moment
he let me into his world...
It was probably the first time I have leaped
over and left behind my wall of reasoning



However, what I didn't know atthat time...

...was that I would get to meet the smiling girl from the picture only five years later.